

Iraq keeps up raids on Iran

NICOSTIA (AP) — Iraq kept up its intensive air attacks against Iran for the third straight day Saturday, hitting an unidentified vessel in the Gulf and Iranian positions in the Huwazeh marshes, a military communique broadcast by Baghdad Radio. The communique said a "large naval target," a term reserved by the Iraqis for foreign oil tankers, was raided by Iraqi jets off the Iranian coast at 0335 local time (1235 GMT). It added that the vessel sustained "direct and effective hits." The communique added that Iraqi war planes flew 80 bombing missions against Iranian positions in the Huwazeh marshes, which are part of the southern sector of the battlefield, "inflicting death and destruction on the enemy forces and setting their positions and weapons ablaze."

Star Wars could be vulnerable

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defense system could be destroyed by Soviet anti-satellite weapons, a group of scientists opposed to the programme said Saturday. The Union of Concerned Scientists released a study which concludes that "regardless of the protective measures employed by the U.S. system, the Soviets can destroy Star Wars battle stations, computers, sensors and the like with cheap space mines, nuclear-tipped rockets, and other weapons. "Star Wars," officially known as the strategic defense initiative, has become the centerpiece of Mr. Reagan's military buildup and is his plan to protect the United States against attack by missiles.

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Yasser to visit Kuwait in February

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Ali al-Fayez will pay an official visit to Kuwait in February in response to an invitation from his Kuwaiti counterpart, Ahmad Al-Sabah. The visit will coincide with celebrations marking Kuwait's National Day. During his visit to Kuwait, Mr. Fayez will also attend the opening of Kuwait's new parliament building.

Stricken tanker heads for port

ROTTERDAM (R) — A stricken supertanker which drifted ablaze in a North Sea storm after colliding with a trawler was safely towed towards Rotterdam on Saturday, a salvage company spokesman said. Crude oil from its 73,000-ton cargo was no longer spilling into the sea and the fire had burned itself out, he said. At one stage after the collision early on Friday the 76,142-ton Orleans drifted dangerously close to two North Sea gas rigs. The rigs were partially evacuated but a tug pulled the tanker clear in time.

Iraqi president receives Clark

BAGHDAD (AP) — William Clark, former national security adviser to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, met here on Saturday with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Baghdad Radio reported that Clark, who arrived here Thursday, also took part in the meeting, the report said without elaboration. U.S. embassy officials said Mr. Clark, who arrived here Thursday, was on a "private visit" to Iraq. They refused to comment further on his visit.

Somali leader declares amnesty

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre on Saturday declared a general amnesty for thousands of nationals who have been living in exile for nearly a decade. The official Somali Radio quoted Mr. Siad Barre as saying during a visit to the northwestern regional capital of Hargeisa that he was willing to return home should register at the nearest Somali embassy or consulate. The exiles, who include former cabinet ministers, politicians and military officers, fled the country during and after the 1977-78 war with Ethiopia over the southeastern Ethiopian Ogaden region.

PLO reports 'suspicious' activity in Red Sea area

KHARTOUM (R) — A PLO commander in Sudan says Khartoum authorities have spotted "suspicious" air and naval activity in a Red Sea area where Palestinian forces have a base for some 500 fighters. The commander, not named, told the official Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) that precautionary measures by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had already forced postponement of Israeli plans to attack the base.

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King, Arafat begin talks on peace effort

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat were holding late-night talks on Saturday on the Middle East peace process and informed sources said Mr. Arafat was expected to convey to the King the PLO's final position on United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The PLO chairman, who is making the first visit to Jordan since November, had earlier arrived here from Sana'a, North Yemen, where he was monitoring events in South Yemen.

In response to a question upon his arrival on a reported reconciliation process between the PLO leadership and Damascus-based PLO dissidents, Mr. Arafat said: "The organisation has never been united as it is today."

Asked whether he planned to visit Moscow soon, the PLO chairman replied: "No," and added that he had no immediate plans to hold talks with the Soviet leadership, which, according to informed sources, had offered to mediate differences between the PLO on the one hand and Syria and the PLO dissidents on the other.

In a statement he gave to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, upon his arrival at the Queen Alia International Airport, the PLO leader said he will discuss with the King "the Palestinian question in the light of the current developments on the political and diplomatic levels." He said he will also discuss the Israeli "attacks on Al Aqsa Mosque and Haram Al Sharif" in Jerusalem. Mr. Arafat

was received at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali.

Replying to a question whether he was carrying any special message to King Hussein, Mr. Arafat said: "Yes, my heartfelt wishes and conscience."

He refused to be drawn into replying whether the PLO had finalised its position on 242 and 338. A senior Jordanian official told the Jordan Times earlier this month that Jordan had asked the PLO to inform it of its final stand on the two key U.N. resolutions. The PLO has repeatedly said Resolutions 242 and 338 could not be the only basis for Middle East peace negotiations since they define the Palestinians as refugees and do not provide for Palestinian statehood.

The Feb. 11 agreement signed between Jordan and the PLO last year calls for a joint approach to a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question on the basis of all pertinent United Nations resolutions but does not mention 242 and 338 in particular.

The U.S. maintains that only if the PLO accepted 242 and 338 Washington would recognise the organisation's status as representative of the Palestinian people and reports have said that the PLO had been offered guarantees of U.N. recognition if the organisation publicly accepts 242 and 338.

Mr. Arafat's visit to Amman follows stepped up diplomatic efforts involving the U.S., Jordan and Israel to find an acceptable framework for peace negotiations under an international umbrella.

King Hussein, during a visit to Britain last week, held talks with special U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, who in turn held four rounds of talks with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres in The Hague and London.

Peres said on Friday that "important progress" has been made to arrange Mideast peace negotiations but did not spell out the nature of the progress.

However, Peres' statements to reporters indicated that Israel was maintaining its insistence on excluding the PLO from the peace process. An Israeli official was quoted by news agencies as saying on Friday that Israel was willing to open peace talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in which the Palestinian side could be represented by Palestinian mayors from the occupied West Bank or members of the Jordanian parliament.

The King's talks with Mr. Arafat on Saturday were expected to focus on this issue with special emphasis on what the PLO could do to ensure its representative status and participation in the peace process.

The high-level delegation accompanying Mr. Arafat includes Fatah Central Committee members Salah Khalaf and Hani Al Hassan, PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas and other senior PLO officials.

Mubarak receives King's message

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the message, delivered to Mr. Mubarak by Royal Court Chief Adnan Abu Odeh, dealt with the latest Middle East developments.

Petra said Mr. Mubarak's meeting with Mr. Abu Odeh was attended by presidential adviser Osama Al Baz and Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt, Hussein Hamam.

Before his arrival in Cairo, Mr. Abu Odeh visited Sana'a and delivered a message from the King on Arab affairs to North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Petra said. It did not give details.

Cabinet lifts all curbs on Arab capital

AMMAN (J.T.) — Non-Jordanian Arabs will from now on be able to invest freely in Jordan, purchase land and real estate, buy and sell shares and transfer capital and business profits from and to Jordan freely and without any restrictions and will be treated, in this respect, as any Jordanian citizen, according to a cabinet decision announced on Saturday.

The announcement said that the government, in its bid to encourage investments in Jordan and in embodiment of Jordan's belief



KING MARKS ARBOR DAY: His Majesty King Hussein plants a tree on Saturday at Mastaba near Jerash as part of Arbor Day celebration (See story on page 3)

in promoting joint Arab action and pan-Arab cooperation, has endorsed the following principles and rules that would help Arab citizens other than Jordanians to invest in the country:

- All non-Jordanian Arab investors will be treated as Jordanians when investing capital in Jordan and all their rights in their property will be safeguarded in industry, agriculture, tourism, services, transport, education, health or real estate within municipal boundaries. They can also set up

buildings for commercial and domestic purposes or purchase such estates and can buy and sell shares freely.

— Non-Jordanian Arabs can invest in trade, finance and insurance through partnership with Jordanian citizens at a rate not exceeding 49 per cent in any single project, unless their own countries allow Jordanians to invest in them at a higher rate.

— Non-Jordanian Arab citizens

(Continued on page 5)

Geagea seeks peace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Militant rightist militia leader Samir Geagea on Saturday held out an olive branch to Syria, saying a Damascus-sponsored peace drive he helped weave could be revived.

Mr. Geagea's statement in a press conference amid reports confirmed overnight fighting between his forces and Syrian-backed militiamen. Reports also said that opponents of President Amin Gemayel, whom Mr. Geagea backs, are seeking to oust the Christian president by the end of February.

"We will do whatever is necessary to reach peace," said Mr. Geagea, who was elected leader of the "Lebanese Forces" militia Friday night.

"Some of you think the peace process is not possible — quite the contrary," he added. His remarks confirmed the emergence of a new conciliatory line on Syrian peacemaking among Christian leaders apparently anxious to avert an unequal military showdown with Damascus.

Mr. Geagea and President Gemayel incurred Syrian wrath last week when they joined forces to oust former Lebanese Forces chief Elie Hobeika, shattering a Syrian-brokered peace accord Mr. Hobeika signed with rival leftist militias.

Syria retaliated by unleashing its Lebanese militia allies against Lebanese troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel and reinforcing its army's posts near the 43-year-old president's mountain village.

Battlefronts were quiet on Saturday, the first day of calm since they were reignited by the Jan. 15 coup against Mr. Hobeika.

"Syrian troops will not attack in the mountain, or anywhere else."

(Continued on page 5)

Attas returns home

ADEN (R) — South Yemen's new head of state, Haider Abu Baker Al Attas, flew in from Moscow on Saturday as life in Aden slowly returned to normal after 12 days of fighting between rival Marxist factions.

Aden Radio said Mr. Attas, named interim head of state on Friday by the central committee of the ruling Yemeni Socialist Party, had arrived from Moscow, where he was given a pledge of support on Friday.

Burnt tanks, wrecked cars and shattered buildings scarred the streets of Aden after battles, described by witnesses as the bloodiest in this city of 350,000 people since the country gained independence from Britain in 1967.

Opponents of President Ali Nasser Mohammad said Friday they had stripped him of his titles and named Prime Minister Attas as interim head of state.

Mr. Attas, a 49-year-old civil engineer, was in New Delhi when clashes erupted on Jan. 13. He flew to Moscow to await the outcome of the fighting in which as many as 10,000 people were killed, according to unconfirmed estimates.

Aden airport, closed since last week, is now open for day traffic. Communications have also been restored, but government offices and banks stayed shut on Saturday.

The party's central committee on Friday accused Mr. Mohammad of "masterminding a criminal bloody plot to physically liquidate the party's collective leadership and establish a terrorist dictatorship regime."

Mr. Mohammad's whereabouts were not known, but a central committee statement quoted by Aden Radio said his forces and "counter-revolutionary elements" were trying to assemble.

The statement said the new leadership had sacked 19 other officials, including Interior Minister Mohammad Abdullah Al Botani, State Security Minister Ahmad Mosa'd Hussein, Deputy Defence Minister Ali Abdullah Eleiwa and Navy Commander Ahmad Abdullah Hosni.

Defence Minister Colonel Saleh Moshel Qassem, his predecessor Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar and Deputy Chairman of the Party Praesidium Motlag Hassan were among some 50 officials killed in the conflict, the statement said.

Scores of tanks, cars and other vehicles burned into twisted metal and buildings holed by rockets and artillery could be seen on Saturday in Aden's districts of Khormaskar, Crater, Mukalla and Tawahi.

Some 50,000 residents have fled. Many of them walked for up

to 10 kilometres to escape the fighting... a large number were killed," one witness said.

More than 6,000 foreigners were evacuated by Soviet, French and British vessels to the East African port of Djibouti.

The AP adds from Bahrain: Aden Radio reported the return and said Mr. Attas was accompanied by the ministers of foreign affairs, construction and finance.

It quoted Mr. Attas as expressing "satisfaction over the outcome of the talks with the Soviet leadership," and saying his country's relations with the Soviet Union "get stronger by the day."

An Arab diplomat in Sana'a told the AP: "Fierce fighting at the gates of Aden has not abated, and there also have been limited shootouts in scattered locations within the ghost city. The spectre of civil war has not been more menacing since the outbreak of violence."

"As far as the Arab neighbours of South Yemen are concerned, Ali Nasser Mohammad remains the sole legitimate leader of that country," said the same diplomat.

Knownledgeable officials in Sana'a said the rebels were in control of most of Aden, but Mr. Mohammad commanded an overwhelming following

Rebels, army battle for Kampala

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Frightened residents of Kampala huddled in their homes as rebel forces and government troops fought on Saturday for control of the Ugandan capital, Western diplomats said.

The diplomats reported by radio from Kampala that the troops were maintaining their hold on key areas of the city including government buildings following rebel seizure of other parts on Friday.

The British high commission in Nairobi reported confrontations between government forces and National Resistance Army (NRA) rebels in an area around downtown Kampala from the north to the southwest. The British statement said combat has moved towards the city centre.

Diplomats in Kampala told their colleagues in Nairobi that government forces still held the parliament building and the nearby Nile mansions, a government office complex allegedly used as a torture centre.

new U.S.-led offer hours later, she said.

Opposition politicians refuse to accept that Mrs. Thatcher, who must call a general election by 1988, knew nothing about the leak plan since her own office was involved. Newspapers ask whether she is losing her winning touch.

Mrs. Thatcher on Saturday named Paul Channon as her new trade secretary succeeding Mr. Brittan.

Mr. Channon, 50, who was Mr. Brittan's deputy, is heir to part of the Guinness brewery fortune. He will be entering the Thatcher cabinet for the first time.

He was junior minister for Northern Ireland under Mrs. Thatcher's predecessor Edward Heath and arts minister under Mrs. Thatcher from 1981-83.

Qadhafi sails out to Gulf of Sirte to 'fight' Sixth Fleet

MISURATA, Libya (Agencies) — Colonel Muammar Qadhafi boarded a Libyan missile-bearing navy patrol boat on Saturday and sailed out into the Gulf of Sirte for what he said was a confrontation with the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Col. Qadhafi, wearing a light blue and green ski suit and a Libyan naval officer's cap, declared his defiance of the Sixth Fleet in a shipboard news conference in the harbour of Misurata, 200 kilometres east of Tripoli.

"Libya cannot be patient forever to live under America's international terrorism," he said. "I

am going out to the parallel 32.5, which is the line of death, where we will stand and fight with our backs to the wall."

He did not explain what he meant by "fight."

"The Gulf of Sirte (Sidra) is part and parcel of Libyan territory. We call on the international community to prevent the United States carrying out military manoeuvres inside Libya's economic zone... which stretches to the continental shelf of Malta and Italy."

Col. Qadhafi said he intended to sail to Benghazi, on the eastern side of the Gulf, to emphasise his

assertion that the Gulf belonged to Libya.

On Friday, the Sixth Fleet, including the aircraft carrier Saratoga and Coral Sea, began two weeks of exercises off the Libyan coast — including the Gulf of Sirte, which the United States regards as international waters, except for the stretch of Gulf 18 kilometres offshore.

The United States refuses to heed Libya's claim to the Gulf, applying the standard 18-kilometre limit on coastal waters.

(Continued on page 5)

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Arab states hope S. Yemen will maintain foreign policy

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Arab governments are expected to take a wait-and-see attitude on the change of regime in Aden but hope South Yemen's more outward-looking foreign policy will be continued, diplomatic and political sources said Saturday.

They said events in South Yemen since fighting broke out on Jan. 13 could be seen partly as an internal power struggle between tribal factions, rather than purely as an ideological battle between rival Marxists.

Both South and North Yemen have a tradition of tribal conflict, with loyalties based on personal rather than ideological ties.

Aden, scene of bitter fighting in which more than 10,000 people may have died, was reported returning to normal Saturday.

Aden radio announced a decision by the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party to appoint Prime Minister Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas interim head of state, after stripping President Ali Nasser Mohammad of all state and party titles.

Gulf sources said, however, it might be too early to rule out Mr. Nasser Mohammad as a force in South Yemen.

News summaries in Aden Friday night said his whereabouts

were unknown, but added that his forces and "counter-revolutionary elements" were trying to reassemble.

Diplomatic sources suggested that Attas, given a pledge of Soviet support in Moscow Friday, was likely to continue Mr. Nasser Mohammad's policy of improving relations with the Arab neighbours.

South Yemen established relations with Oman with Kuwaiti mediation after years of bitter division, and improved ties with North Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

The Aden government, basically dependent on Soviet assistance since independence from Britain in 1967, has also been receiving aid from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Economic Development.

"It is too early to say, but they are not likely to change foreign policy as many of the people in the government are the same," one source said.

But this could depend to some

extent on the influence of one of the reported coup leaders, Marxist ideologue Abdul Fattah Ismail, a former president regarded as a hardliner.

Mr. Ismail's return last year from self-exile in Moscow apparently placed him in conflict with Mr. Nasser Mohammad.

Diplomats noted, however, that Moscow — apparently surprised by the coup — had an interest in stability in the region.

The Kremlin told foreign embassies in Moscow Friday, it viewed the fighting in South Yemen as an internal matter and urged other countries not to interfere.

Moscow is also in a major policy drive to improve relations with the Gulf Arab countries.

Diplomats said its establishment of diplomatic ties last year with Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was a result of improved South Yemeni relations on the Arabian peninsula.

"The key to Soviet diplomatic activity in the region has been the more progressive approach by South Yemen to its neighbours. Moscow's influence is likely to be directed towards maintaining this policy," one source commented.

He said Mr. Attas' presence in

Moscow, where he went from an official visit to New Delhi after fighting erupted in Aden, could have important implications.

But he added that the events in South Yemen implied Soviet power there was limited, despite its military and aid presence.

Meanwhile British Ambassador Arthur Marshall said Friday approximately 800 Asians, mainly Indians and Pakistanis, were awaiting evacuation from Aden.

Mr. Marshall said Royal Navy warships would continue the evacuation until all expatriate wishing to leave were removed.

Information reaching reporters aboard HMS Jupiter said that a grouping of foreigners were evacuated under the U.N. flag, indicating that the 500 people said to have been trapped in the U.N. compound may have left Aden.

Talking to reporters aboard the Jupiter as it headed with a load of evacuees for Djibouti, Mr. Marshall said, "all the British that we know of are now out... there may be three or four left but not in Aden."

Nearly 5,000 expatriates from 40 countries have been plucked from the shores of the South Yemeni capital.

Whitehead calls Libya mission 'a success'

WASHINGTON (R) — Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead arrived back in Washington at the end of what he called "a successful mission" to tell allies about Libyan support of terrorism.

Mr. Whitehead flew home from the Hague, the last stop in his 10-day, nine-nation trip during which the allies gave a cool reception to Washington's plea to join U.S. economic sanctions against Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's government.

Mr. Whitehead, declaring "the trip was successful," arrived home as U.S. Navy carrier jets prepared to fly practice missions for a second day north of Libya in what the State Department called a show of resolve to deploy forces in international zones.

Mr. Whitehead told reporters at Andrews Air Force Base he found a common dedication to deal with the problem of terrorism among the government officials he met.

"While our allies may not adopt exactly the same package of measures we have taken, I am confident now that each of our allies will help," he said.

"Some of them have already done a lot to help with our bringing pressure on Qadhafi. Others have agreed during my trip to adopt additional measures and I am confident that in the weeks and months ahead that all will make their contribution." He did not mention any specific countries.

Col. Qadhafi's claim to the Gulf led to a 1981 clash in which U.S. planes shot down two Libyan aircraft there.

"These operations are intended to demonstrate once again U.S. resolve to continue to operate in international waters and air space throughout the world."

British MP backs Ethiopian resettlement programme

ADDIS ABABA (R) — A British opposition member of parliament Saturday dismissed reports that thousands of people had died in Ethiopia's controversial programme to resettle famine victims in more fertile areas of the country.

Labour MP Michael MacGowan said allegations by the French charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) that the res-

ettlement programme has involved appalling brutality and should be halted immediately were "highly provocative and offensive."

Speaking after visiting a model resettlement village in Asosa in western Ethiopia, Mr. MacGowan said the area "holds enormous opportunity and some hope for the famine victims to be food self-sufficient."

By William MacLean
Reuter

GHOSTA, Lebanon — Lebanon's new Falangist strongman, Samir Geagea, is grooming university graduates to be a military elite, at a 1,000-year-old monastery overlooking the Mediterranean.

"We want quality, not quantity. One thousand well-trained men can defeat thousands of disorganised rabble," says Assad Abu Jaoude, commander of Geagea's "Lebanese Forces" militia training school at windswept Ghosta village.

"The Israeli army started as a militia, and now it is one of the strongest in the world. We must do the same."

The school is Geagea's brainchild and was set up by Abu Jaoude last May in Ghosta's deserted monastery 20 kilometres outside the capital Beirut.

Last week Geagea seized control of the "Lebanese Forces" and ousted its leader, Elie Hobeika, in fighting that shattered a Lebanon

Lebanese fear return of all-out civil war

By Alistair Lyon
Reuter

BEIRUT — The collapse of a Syrian-backed peace pact for Lebanon has thrown the country into political turmoil and raised fears of another bout of all-out civil war.

Syria's key Christian ally, Elie Hobeika, fled Lebanon last week, ousted in a bloody putsch by hardliners within his own "Lebanese Forces" militia and followers of President Amin Gemayel.

The fighting killed at least 200 in Christian east Beirut and wrecked the peace pact Hobeika signed late last year with Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militia leaders.

Syria's allies in Lebanon suddenly blamed Mr. Gemayel for scuttling the pact and declared him a political outcast.

The bleak prospects for peace prompted a new run on the embattled Lebanese pound currency as people flocked to buy dollars.

Angered at the blow to their prestige, Syrian leaders have refused contact with Mr. Gemayel and Falangist opponents of the accord but have not commented publicly on Mr. Hobeika's downfall.

In a report from Damascus, Beirut's leftist newspaper, As Safir quoted a Syrian official as saying: "We may have lost our bet on Amin Gemayel. We wanted to help him achieve a solution through peace and reforms. He preferred to remain a hero of war and champion of the old obsolete system."

After Hobeika's defeat, pro-Syrian opposition militias opened up long-dormant battlefronts in north Lebanon and near Mr. Gemayel's mountain village of Bikfaya north of Beirut.

Syrian troops have massed armour and artillery above Bikfaya, raising the possibility of a direct confrontation with Lebanese army units defending the village.

As Syria tightened pressure on Mr. Gemayel, opposition political

camp:

Abu Jaoude says Geagea, an ascetic figure popular among the rank-and-file, wants recruits strictly disciplined and imbued with religious motivation.

"Children of 16 have joined the (Lebanese Forces) units just to carry a gun. It's a mess. We need responsible people in the streets," says Abu Jaoude, a former Lebanese army major and electronics expert.

"At every stage we teach the recruits Christian history. They must not be mercenaries. They must fight for what they believe in."

Everyday for three months, trainees rise at 5:30 a.m. for instruction in small arms fire, signals, explosives, map reading and basic infantry fighting.

A further three months of officer training involves work on armoured cars and tanks.

Recruits practise grenade attacks on mock-up houses and duck and dive across car wrecks and debris similar to terrain on Beirut's "Green Line" battlefront.

Trainees also study the Bible and attend lectures, seated at desks in stone-built narrow vaults where monks once made wine. Every Sunday they attend mass in a renovated chapel.

Instructors, mostly former officers in Falangist units of the Lebanese army, encourage recruits to restore ancient pathways near the monastery, site of the grave of a 16th Century Maronite patriarch, and revere its architecture.

"We want to civilise them," said Abu Jaoude. "We try to make them appreciate things like trees, birds and animals and not to kill them."

Recruits are paid \$100 a month. Within six months they are expected to join front-line units and face opposition militias or Syrian army troops.

"They are not ready yet for the front," said Abu Jaoude, who received Lebanese army training in the United States and France. "It is no good sending them into battle unprepared and turning them into a laughing stock."

Italy backs closer Turkish-EC relations

ANKARA (R) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti gave support to Turkish efforts aimed at developing closer ties with the European Community (EC), diplomatic sources here said.

They said Mr. Andreotti told Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu that Italy was seeking a normalisation in relations between Ankara and the 12-nation bloc.

Mr. Halefoglu this month asked EC foreign ministers for a ministerial-level meeting of the Turkey-EC Cooperation Council, suspended by the Community since a military coup in Turkey in 1980.

Mr. Halefoglu told Mr. Andreotti in a dinner speech, the text of which was released in advance, that such a meeting was a necessary step on the way to relaunching EC-Turkey ties.

"We hope we can count on the valued support of Italy in efforts within the EC Council (of Ministers) in eliminating the obstacles on the road to this," he said.

Mr. Halefoglu and Mr. Andreotti also signed a framework agreement Friday providing for unspecified Italian project credits to Turkey, especially in the energy and minerals sectors, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The Italian minister also had talks with Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who the sources said urged closer Turkish-Italian relations and also sought Italian help in boosting Ankara's ties with Europe.

Tripoli recovers after Syrian takeover

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Tripoli is bouncing back to life three months after Syrian troops took control of the devastated north Lebanese port from Muslim extremists.

Money, not politics, is in the air as the 700,000 people of Lebanon's second city work on rebuilding shattered homes. Shops have reopened in streets where snipers once paralysed activity.

Syrian troops manning sandbagged posts at almost every crossroads have driven gunmen off the streets. They moved into the city last October after a bitter five-week war between Syrian-backed leftist militias and Muslim fundamentalists.

Rocket and shellfire wrecked large parts of the city and some 500 people were killed in the fighting, which broke the power of the "Islamic Unification Movement" (Tawheed).

"Nobody wants to talk about Tawheed, or the Syrians," said a resident in the heavily-damaged Abu Samra district. "They want to get on with their lives in peace."

The city throbs with activity as bulldozers gouge at wrecked buildings, workmen clear drains and collect garbage, and police try to control traffic chaos. Even driving tests have resumed.

"Now people feel secure," civil engineer Muwaffaq Al Zuheir told Reuters. "Everyone is working on reconstruction."

"The Syrians are doing their best to make Tripoli a symbol for other parts of Lebanon," said Hassan Mounia, president of Tripoli's Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Syrian takeover came a month after Damascus struck a deal with the town of Zahle in Syrian-held east Lebanon under

which Falangist militiamen withdrew and Syria guaranteed the safety of its 200,000 Christian residents.

"Now we really feel at peace," Zahle's Greek Catholic Bishop Andre Haddad told Reuters. "Commerce is doing very well and people from the (mainly Muslim) Bekka come and go in security. The Syrians are very correct."

In Tripoli, Syrian troops have raided Tawheed arms caches and recently seized equipment from the militia's radio station. But even Tawheed's "Emir" (prince) Sheikh Saeed Shaaban concedes that his black-burkanned followers can move freely without guns.

"We are abiding by the agreement, but our voice must be allowed like that of others," Shaaban said. "The Islam we live is one of peace with peacekeepers and war with aggressors."

The Syrians took over under an accord that stipulated free political activity for both Tawheed and their leftist rivals.

But after a man was killed in a demonstration, all parties agreed to suspend political rallies and marches.

Tripoli police, whose morale is now high, work closely with the Syrians and admit they could not control the city without them.

Business leaders say the pervasive Syrian presence has brought a welcome stability.

"Twenty new companies have registered in the last few weeks and five Beirut banks have opened branches here," said Mounia. "Restaurants are open at night and people come at weekends to enjoy our famous seafood and Arabic sweets."

Before the Syrian takeover Tawheed militants imposed strict Islamic Sharia Law on the city,

effectively isolating it from Christian villages in its hinterland.

"They interfered in everything, searched homes for whisky, banned dancing, stopped women from going to male hairdressers and took millions from the port," a Tripoli army colonel said. "We were cut off from our markets. It was a disaster."

Mounia said merchants were selling clothing, furniture, electrical goods and building materials to Syrian businessmen cashing in on the current weakness of the Lebanese pound.

Many Tripolitans working in the Gulf had resumed remitting money to buy land or apartments, he said. "But we want to see more sophisticated investment in industry and agriculture."

Business has picked up at Tripoli's port, but its director Ahmad Karami complains of competition from illegal jetties at Al Minieh and Salata, to the north and south.

Tawheed's Sheikh Hashem Minkara, wounded by unidentified gunmen earlier this month, no longer draws revenue from the port, but a local "mafia" still siphons off some customs dues.

"Nothing can be 100 per cent legal here while the illegal ports are active. But we collect customs on more than 50 per cent of goods. The Syrians help us when they can," Karami said.

Lebanese-born Saudi Arabian millionaire Rafiq Hariri is funding a big clean-up in the city. His Oger-Liban Company has taken on an extra 200 staff to demolish ruined buildings, repair water and sewage networks.

Hariri's damage surveyors say 15,000 homes were completely or partly destroyed.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 7311119	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 kHz
MAIN CHANNEL	06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Juice Box Dury
16:00 Koran	06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Ref
16:20 Cartoons	07:00 World News 07:00 24
16:45 Children's Programmes	07:05 Letter from America 08:00
17:45 Survival	08:05 24 Hour News 08:05 24
18:10 Local Programme	09:00 World News 09:00 24
18:40 Local Series	09:05 World News 09:05 24
19:00 News Programme on Jordan	09:10 World News 09:10 24
20:00 News in Arabic	09:15 World News 09:15 24
20:35 The Pleasure of News	09:20 World News 09:20 24
21:35 Tomorrow's programmes	09:25 World News 09:25 24
21:40 Local Varieties Programme	09:30 World News 09:30 24
23:00 News in Arabic	09:35 World News 09:35 24
FOREIGN CHANNEL	09:40 World News 09:40 24
18:00 Lu Mandarin	09:45 World News 09:45 24
19:00 News in French	09:50 World News 09:50 24
19:15 French Varieties	09:55 World News 09:55 24
19:30 News in Hebrew	10:00 World News 10:00 24
20:00 News in Arabic	10:05 World News 10:05 24
20:30 The Cabbage Patch	10:10 World News 10:10 24
21:10 End of Empire	10:15 World News 10:15 24
22:00 News in English	10:20 World News 10:20 24
22:30 Dempsey and Makepeace	10:25 World News 10:25 24
RADIO JORDAN 838 KHz, AM & 95.6 MHz, FM & 101.1 MHz, FM, 101.1 Tel. 7311119	10:30 World News 10:30 24
07:00 Light Music	10:35 World News 10:35 24
07:30 Newsweek	10:40 World News 10:40 24
08:00 Morning Show	10:45 World News 10:45 24
08:30 News Summary	10:50 World News 10:50 24
09:00 News Summary	10:55 World News 10:55 24
09:30 Pop Session	11:00 World News 11:00 24
10:00 News Summary	11:05 World News 11:05 24
10:30 Pop Session Cont.	11:10 World News 11:10 24
11:00 News Summary	11:15 World News 11:15 24
11:30 Pop Session Cont.	11:20 World News 11:20 24
12:00 News Bulletin	11:25 World News 11:25 24
12:30 News Bulletin	11:30 World News 11:30 24
13:00 Science Report	11:35 World News 11:35 24
13:30 Concert Hour	11:40 World News 11:40 24
14:00 News Bulletin	11:45 World News 11:45 24
14:30 News Bulletin	11:50 World News 11:50 24
15:00 Old Favourites	11:55 World News 11:55 24
15:30 Listeners' Choice	12:00 World News 12:00 24
16:00 News Bulletin	12:05 World News 12:05 24
16:30 News Bulletin	12:10 World News 12:10 24
17:00 News Bulletin	12:15 World News 12:15 24
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23:00 News Bulletin	13:15 World News 13:15 24
23:30 News Bulletin	13:20 World News 13:20 24
24:00 News Bulletin	13:25 World News 13:25 24

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITION
French exhibition entitled "Naissance de l'Éclat" at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 30)	Painting exhibition by Hind Shafiq Nasser at the Marriott Hotel (until Jan. 28)
VIDEO	SPECIAL PROGRAMME ON THE OSCAR AWARDS
Sport video "Face a la mer" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	At 6:30 p.m. today at the American Centre: Mr. Robert Wise, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (OSCAR), will participate via a satellite telephone link from Hollywood, with a panel of Jordanian participants, in a discussion of the history of film industry in the U.S.A.
CULTURAL CENTRES	CHURCHES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
American Centre Tel. 644371	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic)
British Council Tel. 631478	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Goethe Institute Tel. 641993	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic)
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644203	Anglican Church (Church of the Redemptor)
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 637977	
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195	
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 644251	
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111	
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	PRAYER TIMES
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651700.	06:12 Fair
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an	10:34 (Sunrise) Duh
	11:00 Dhuhr
	14:00 'Asr
	17:00 Maghrib
	18:25 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 52000, where it should always be verified

ARRIVALS

01:30	Bucharest (RO)
02:00	Berlin, Larnaca (IF)
02:30	Kuwait (RU)
03:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RU)
03:45	Cairo (RU)
03:45	Jeddah (RU)
05:45	Agaba (RU)
05:45	Doha, Bahrain (RU)
10:45	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
13:20	Istanbul (TK)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
15:40	Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Cairo (RU)
17:30	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RU)
17:50	New York, Amsterdam (RU)
17:55	Athens (RU)
17:55	Paris, Brussels (RU)
18:00	Kuwait (RU)
18:00	Rome (RU)
18:00	London (RU)
18:00	Madrid, Rome (RU)
18:00	Athens, Damascus (OA)
18:00	Frankfurt, Geneva (RU)
20:30	Frankfurt (LH)
20:30	London (BA)
23:20	Cairo (MS)
00:25	Baghdad (RU)

DEPARTURES

01:30	Bucharest (RO)
02:00	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
02:30	Agaba (RU)
03:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
03:30	Beirut (MEA)
04:15	Damascus, Rome (AZ)
04:30	Larnaca, Berlin (IF)
05:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RU)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RU)
11:30	Athens (RU)
12:15	Riyadh, Doha (SV)
13:00	Kuwait (RU)
13:30	Cairo (RU)
14:10	Dhahran (TK)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:40	Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)
16:00	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Kuwait (RU)

19:45	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RU)
20:00	Damascus (RU)
20:10	Baghdad (RU)
20:30	Dubai, Muscat (RU)
20:45	Cairo (RU)
21:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RU)
22:00	Baghdad (RU)
22:00	London (RU)
00:05	Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The sky will be partly cloudy with slight increase in temperature during the day. In the gulf of Aden the wind will be northerly moderate and the sea will turn rough gradually with the change of wind in the southerly direction towards evening.

Amman	4/13
Agaba	11/20
Desert	2/10
Jordan Valley	14/23

MONEY EXCHANGE

	Saturday rates
	Local currency rates in JLD
Bahraini dinar	965
Dutch guilder	133.4
Egyptian pound	202
French franc	48.2
Israeli dir.	342
Japanese yen (for 100)	186.7
Kuwaiti dir.	127.7
Lebanese lira	16
Omani riyal	1057
Qatari riyal	100
Saudi riyal	96
Swiss franc	49
Swedish crown	49
Swedish krona	178.5
Syrian lira	21
UAE dirham	98
U.S. sterling pound	507.3
U.S. dollar	264.2
W. German mark	151.3

Ties with Israel will not affect Spanish stand on Arab causes, envoy says

By Sarah E. Neuman
and Maria Salazar
Jordan Times Staff Writers

AMMAN — Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menéndez del Valle, contending on Monday that his government's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel on Jan. 17 will not affect Spain's overall stance vis-à-vis the Arab World and the Palestinian people.

Mr. Menéndez del Valle said Spain's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel was only a "symbolic formal move which will not change Spain's traditional stance towards the Arab countries and the Palestinians." "To establish diplomatic ties with a state does not necessarily mean to approve, accept or to recognise the policy of that state," Mr. Menéndez del Valle told a press conference held at the Spanish Embassy.

He reiterated his country's categorical denunciation of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

On the timing of his government's move, which followed Spain's admission to the European Community, the ambassador said that Spain's admission to the "ten-member group came at a formal moment when Spain is making a transcendental (transitional) change in its foreign policy." He did not deny a link between his country's move to establish ties with Israel and its entry to the EC, but said that he was not officially informed about any pressures on his government.

The ambassador said that even "if the government came under pressure, it is logical for the government to deny it. This is normal in diplomatic life."

Mr. Menéndez del Valle told reporters that his government, by establishing ties with Israel and entering the EC, would be more "effective" in "defending" the Arab stand regarding the Palestinian problem. He said that the Socialist government of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez "has been directly and indirectly in contact with Arab governments and the PLO" regarding the move to establish ties with Tel Aviv.

The ambassador said that his government hopes there will not be an "important (negative) Arab reaction" against Spain, because the spirit and intention of his government is to contribute to the pro-Arab and Palestine stand.

The 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), he expressed "the Muslim World's

concern and regret" over Spain's decision. Kuwait also expressed regret over Spain's decision and has decided to recall its ambassador to Madrid for further consultations. The Arab League also expressed its regret over the move.

The Spanish ambassador told reporters that PLO representatives in Madrid "showed some understanding over the Spanish decision," and he added that his government had been in contact with the PLO over the issue for a long time. Asked whether Madrid was considering to accord the PLO full diplomatic representation, the ambassador said: "That is something which is under discussion in the Spanish government."

Mr. Menéndez del Valle added that it is Spain's general policy to establish diplomatic ties with all countries in the world, sometimes to the detriment of its own immediate national interests. Mr. Menéndez also referred to the Spanish declaration issued when his country signed the agreement to establish diplomatic ties with Israel. He said that the declaration said that Spain would retain close links with the Arab World and that it called for the recognition of Palestinian rights in a peace settlement. The statement also called for talks under international auspices "with the participation of the PLO as representatives of the Palestinian people."

In its declaration, Spain also opposed "territorial acquisition" by force, and stressed its "non-recognition" of annexation of the Arab territories occupied by Israel since the June 1967 war," the ambassador said.

The declaration also said that the Spanish government "considers that the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people, and specifically their right to self-determination, must be recognised and guaranteed." But it added that "the right to peaceful existence for all the states in the region, within secure and internationally recognised boundaries, must be guaranteed."

The ambassador stressed that the joint Spanish-Israeli statement, which was issued in The Hague, reiterated Spain's foreign policy towards the Arabs and the Palestinian problem, which was also accepted by the Israelis. "The Israelis in fact took note of the Spanish declaration and the main points included in the joint Israeli-Spanish statement by signing it and accepting the points it included," he said.



His Majesty King Hussein listens to a presentation by Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dahqan during Arbor Day festivities on Saturday. Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai is on the King's left (Photo by Youssef Al-Ailan)

Arbor Day activities mark start of major rural development scheme

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The main celebrations for this year's Arbor Day were held Saturday at a farm in Mastaba near Jerash, which is part of the project area of the Zarqa River Basin Project (ZRBP).

In past years, Arbor Day activities mainly centred around afforestation and the planting of forest tree species. On the initiative of His Majesty King Hussein, this year's Arbor Day and the activities in connection with it during the whole forestry season, will be seen as part of the greater framework of rural development. In order to emphasise this purpose and to demonstrate its practical implications, the Ministry of Agriculture chose this site in the Zarqa River Basin development area.

During the celebrations, the King and representatives of all walks of life planted fruit and other trees in accordance with the farm plan and the land capability classification drawn up by the project for the Mastaba farm.

It was chosen as it is particularly suitable to focus all the project's activities and to serve as an example for the whole area, a project official told the Jordan Times.

The celebrations will at the same time mark the inauguration of the nine-year implementation phase of the ZRBP, starting in 1986. The ZRBP is a project of the Jordanian government, the pilot phase from 1982-1986 was carried out in technical cooperation with West Germany. The implementation phase worth JD 38.5 million will be financed by various Arab and foreign donors.

About four and a half years ago, when the first study for the project started, its objective was, unlike now, fairly restricted. The project came into being because the King Talal reservoir was believed to be filling up with sediment at a much higher rate than had been taken into account when it was constructed in 1972. The preliminary study of the project proved this to be true and estimated that siltation reduces the storage capacity of the reservoir by 2.5 per cent per year.

Soil erosion

Jordanian and foreign experts studied the situation and one year later in 1983 submitted a feasibility study (interim report) which showed the problems to be closely related to large-scale soil erosion in the whole Zarqa River Catchment Area. They estimated that accelerated soil erosion in the area leads to a loss of 1 per cent of all the agricultural land every year. The washed off material is transported to the reservoir by streams and the river, where it eventually settles down. Another source of siltation is from fertile land, adjoining the banks of the Zarqa River, which is washed away annually due to heavy floods. Apart from that, as soil erosion is a danger to a most important national resource the conservation of soil became the central objective of the ZRBP.

It soon became clear that it was necessary to control soil erosion not only on government land but to include private farm land, as it is here that most of the erosion occurs. The study identified the concept of "on-farm development" as one of three sub-projects, which was then implemented during the first phase in two pilot areas of Mastaba (8,000 dunums) and Hamid (7,000 dunums). Mastaba receives 300 to 500 mm of rain annually and has relatively fertile soils while Hamid, near Mafrag, lies in the semi-arid east with a maximum of 250 mm rainfall. Here, rangeland and livestock are the dominant features of farming while around Mastaba, crops (wheat, barley) and vegetables are grown and more recently, supported by the project, orchards

are favoured by the farmers.

Pilot areas

Both pilot areas are part of the Lower Zarqa Catchment Area of 820,000 dunums, which was given priority for development and constitutes the present project area of the ZRBP, as it is land with good agricultural potential. It also has a relatively high population density; the present population is 140,000, of which 50 per cent live in three refugee camps, the others in Jerash and 63 villages. There are 5,700 farm families and the average size of individual holdings ranges from 20 dunums in the western semi-humid areas to 120 dunums in the semi-arid east, the average farm income per year being JD 628.

The whole of the Zarqa River Basin consists of the Zarqa Amman catchment (600,000 dunums) the upper catchment Wadi Dhuleil (1.7 million dunums) and the lower catchment area, of which Wadi Dhuleil was included in the feasibility study, while the Zarqa-Amman area will be considered at a later stage, a project official explained.

Farmers join the "on-farm development" voluntarily after — often lengthy — discussions with the extension service, and the same procedure will be followed during the implementation phase of the project. It favours an active approach of the farmer in his familiar surroundings, and here the project's extension division plays a key role in successful cooperation with the farmers.

Farmers' participation

The individual farm planning process is carried out step by step with the farmer. After an agreement of intention has been signed by both parties, a detailed soil-survey follows and a present land-use map is prepared as well as a calculation of the actual farm income. Next, a map of an improved land-use pattern on the basis of the land capability classification is drawn up and the Farm Plan, which shows several options for the farmer to choose. Of course, the farmers' preferences concerning the type of crops, fruit-trees etc. are taken account of in the Farm Plan as much as possible. Then, the plan is discussed with the farmer, and if it is agreed upon, a final agreement is signed. From then on, it is legally binding for both sides and the plan has to be implemented. However, farmers joining the project during the implementation phase are expected to make up 65 per cent of the 5,700 farm families of the whole project area.

Commitment for the farmers include the maintenance of all soil conservation structures built by the project on his land, to follow the Farm Plan and to carry out all on-farm activities at his own expense, while the project covers the cost for all soil conservation measures and provides fruit-trees at subsidised prices. Planning and extension services are free of charge.

These decisions were taken after a fair amount of discussions in the project and the Ministry of Agriculture, on the grounds that



Stone gabions are built to help prevent soil being washed down sloping land in the area surrounding the King Talal Dam.

King, public plant trees at site of Zarqa basin project

KARAK (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday patronised Jordan's main Arbor Day celebration held at Al Mastaba in Jerash District, near the site of a project for developing the Zarqa River Basin.

The King, who arrived at the celebration site amid cheers from local people, scouts and school students, cut the ribbon to mark the beginning of the formal celebration and also the start of work on the Zarqa River Basin Project. He also planted some trees along with members of the public attending the celebration.

Speaking briefly to Radio Jordan, King Hussein expressed hope that the Arbor Day celebration will usher in a fruitful year for Jordan and he underlined the need for taking good care of the land and trees. "I am proud to be participating in doing good and developing our Jordanian land which we protect with our souls and blood," King Hussein said.

At the outset of the celebration, Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dahqan made a speech in which he welcomed the King and said that his ministry, in response to the King's directives, has this year embarked on implementing a large tree-planting scheme for a greener Jordan.

Land protection

The minister said that Arbor Day celebrations in Jordan demonstrate the country's determination to stem desertification, drought and soil erosion with the purpose of protecting the land and its resources.

This year's celebration is coupled with the commencement of a project to develop the Zarqa River Basin, Mr. Dahqan continued. He explained that the project aims to stop erosion and to prevent soil and silt from accumulating in a reservoir behind the King Talal Dam. The minister said that this water is needed to irrigate lands in the Jordan Valley but added that the government also undertook the project to create an advanced agricultural society around the dam which would be capable of enriching Jordan's farm and agricultural production.

"This project, which will take seven years to complete at a cost of JD 42 million, requires us to plant fruit and forest trees whose roots can bind the soil and stop erosion," the minister said.

The deputy director of the Zarqa River Basin Project later presented a briefing on the project which he said is being implemented over an area of more than three million dunums of semi desert and arid regions extending between Sweilch and Jubeiha in the south to Sakeb in the north and Balama in the west.

This project is designed to control soil erosion, increase the productive capacity of land and to stop further sediment building up in the bottom of the lake, he

added. He said that apart from the Jordanian treasury, the project is being implemented through loans from the Saudi Arabian Development Fund, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Islamic Development Bank and the West German government.

The deputy director also noted that the project will ensure better standards of living for more than 5,700 families and better agricultural production for the country in addition to promoting animal husbandry by cultivating new pasture land.

Agriculture Ministry sources said that the East Bank area covered with forest trees is estimated at 1.5 million dunums and added that the ministry has established 13 nurseries to produce some seven million saplings a year, to rise to nine million in the coming five-year development plan. According to the plan, the sources said 50,000 dunums of land will be planted with trees every year throughout the five-year plan.

Attending the celebration with the King was Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai. Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Iba Zaid, Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Iba Shaker, cabinet members and senior officials as well as heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Jordan.

Other Arbor Day celebrations were held Saturday all over Jordan and officials, along with school children and members of the public, took part in tree planting activities.

Obeid outlines results of Arab transport ministers' first session in Tunis

TUNIS (Petra) — Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid, currently in Tunis to attend meetings of the Arab transport ministers council, Saturday met with the Arab League Assistant Secretary General Abdul Iassan Zalzalah. During the meeting, the two evaluated the results of the first session of the council.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Obeid affirmed that the results of the session, chaired by Jordan, were a reflection of the goals suggested by the Arab economic and social council. He also pointed out that the meeting, through its discussions, endeavoured to develop the Arab transport network by using modern technology in order to achieve the greater goal of developing sea, land and air transport inside every Arab country.

Youth fares
The major recommendations of

Police arrest two men for stealing car fittings, parts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police in Amman have arrested two thieves who were attempting to steal the contents of a car parked in Jabal Amman. The police patrol was on official duty in the area when they saw the two thieves, identified as A.S. and D.M., tampering with the door of a parked car. The policemen chased the men and arrested one while the other fled but was arrested the following day.

Speaking about the details of the case, police sources said that on December 28, 1985 a police patrol, on official night duty in the area, saw A.S. and D.M. attempting to steal a cassette recorder from a private car with a blue number plate. The sources added that the patrol chased the two thieves and arrested A.S. on the spot and D.M. on the next day. The police sources added that whilst they were questioning A.S. he said that he had known D.M. for two years and that the two had agreed to steal parts of Datsun Stanza cars as D.M.'s car of that make needed some spare parts. The two men also agreed to sell any extra parts they could obtain to spare part merchants in Amman.

Police sources added that A.S. confessed that he had robbed more than 12 cars of the same model in different areas of Amman, especially in Jabal Amman, Sweilch, and Um Uthaina. A.S. also admitted that he and D.M. used to remove the wheels, cassettes, lights and cassette recorders from these cars.

The police sources said that after they had completed their investigations, the two thieves were referred to the judicial authorities for prosecution. Police authorities also called on the public to report any suspicious incidents in order that the police can act quickly to apprehend criminals.

Jordan, Egypt start talks on economic ties, fishing company

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Egypt Saturday opened talks designed to bolster economic ties between them. The talks were conducted by teams led by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajal Muasher and Mr. Midhat Abdul Aziz, under secretary of the Egyptian Ministry of Planning and International Investments, who arrived in Amman on Friday. During the talks, both sides reviewed

the session stressed the necessity for setting up an industry for transport equipment in the Arab World in order to achieve Arab economic integration, Mr. Obeid said. The minister added that the council attached special concern to the issue of the free movement of Arab youth among Arab countries and decided to grant youth a reduction of 50 per cent on all Arab airways. This, he added, was aimed at enabling Arab youths to

acquire themselves with the Arab World at a reasonable cost. The minister also added that the council unanimously agreed to set up an Arab establishment for the classification and registration of ships. Mr. Obeid concluded by saying that the Arab transport ministers council took a number of decisions targeted at supporting Arab unions and organisations working in the transport sector.

Attending Saturday's meeting was Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohamad Al Saqqaf and the Egyptian delegation accompanying Mr. Abdul Aziz.

The projected holding company is expected to have a \$50 million capital shared equally by the two countries and the fishing company will have an initial capital of \$10 million.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Wijdan opens flower show

AMMAN (Petra) — Princess Wijdan Ali, president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts, Saturday opened at the Housing Bank Centre in Amman a flower and plants exhibition organised to coincide with Arbor Day celebrations in Jordan. On show are natural and artificial plants and flower arrangements and children's paintings displayed by a number of schools and women's clubs in Amman.

Satellite link with Hollywood today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Today at 6:30 p.m., at the American Centre, director Robert Wise, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (OSCAR), will participate via a satellite telephone link from Hollywood, with a panel of Jordanian participants, in a discussion of the history of the film industry in the United States. The discussion will also include ways to promote film making in Jordan, history of the academy and the Oscars, and films expected to win this year's awards. Mr. Robert Wise is the director of many great films including "The Sound of Music" and "West Side Story." Participants from Jordan include: Mr. Inad Kurdi, Mr. John Boteler, Ms. Kathy Kakish and Ms. Fadia Al Faqeer.

Team to study leasing Waqf property

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat has decided to form a committee to be charged with preparing regulations for leasing Waqf land and other property and estate for development in a manner which would ensure profit to Waqf (Islamic property). The committee, he said, will be headed by the assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and three other senior ministry officials.

GFJW to join Arab women's meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW) will take part in the 10th meeting of the Arab Women's Federation due to open on Monday in Baghdad. The four-day meeting will discuss a pan-Arab plan for Arab women federations' programmes until the year 2000, and will hear a report on Arab women's participation in the international women's conference held in Nairobi last year and recommendations issued by the conference's sub-committees. GFJW President Hafa Al Basma will lead the Jordanian delegation which is composed of three federation members.

Kindergarten teachers attend course

AMMAN (Petra) — The Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QASWF) Saturday opened a training course in Mafrag for teachers employed at kindergartens in Mafrag region. The week-long course, designed to raise the efficiency and performance of the participants, has been organised in cooperation with local charitable societies. The 20 female participants will hear lectures and will be taken on field trips to be oriented on advanced methods and techniques in teaching young children.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Faneek

Cement economics still high on the Government agenda

THE agreed sale of one million tonnes of cement to Egypt has not taken place yet. Apparently the Cement Company is not willing to export that cement to Egypt at the agreed price, because it is short of covering the variable cost of production.

Egypt expressed its readiness to buy Jordanian cement at \$39 per tonne of which around \$16 will go to transportation, leaving \$24 only or less than nine dinars for the company.

The Egyptian side says that this price is higher than world

prices available to them. The company says this is less than the direct cost of producing a tonne of cement in the form of materials, energy, and industrial wages, which totals some JD 11. In theory, both parties may be right. But if that is true, the Cement Company would save two Jordanian dinars per each tonne not produced or not sold.

On the other hand, the energy used by the Cement Company, imported and paid for in hard currency, is subsidised by the government. This means that the national loss resulting

from exporting cement at nine Jordanian dinars is even higher than the direct loss to the Cement Company itself.

Cement is currently sold in the domestic market at JD 33 per tonne. Eight dinars out of this amount represent excise fees to the Treasury, leaving JD 25 to the company. The Jordanian consumer of cement is thus charged 270 per cent more than the alleged world market price.

Cement is a capital item. We cannot think of any consumption use of cement. If the

Jordanian investor is obliged to buy this vital item at three times the world market price, that amounts to a very heavy tax charged to discourage investments and indeed works as a negative incentive towards new projects.

It is obvious that the merger of the South Cement Company with the old cement manufacturing company, did not solve the problem. It was only an attempt to hide the problem and make it less visible.

Loan instalments are falling due. This may mean that the old debts will be paid by bor-

rowing anew, or, worst still, that the company will apply for a new hike of cement prices in the domestic market. The users of cement are not paying a tax of 270 per cent on their purchases of cement. The heavy tax does not show up in the statistics as tax, which it is. Instead it is being reflected as value added in the cement industry and in the industrial sector as a whole.

It is obvious that our cost of producing cement is too high. This may have been caused by the extremely high capital cost

of the production lines. This subject should not be left for guesswork and must be investigated. The problem should be diagnosed, and we should know who, how, and why the economics of cement production reached this unacceptable situation.

The merger of the two cement companies was not a mistake, but it is not sufficient. The merger should not lead the government to skip the cement economic and financial problem from its list of priorities, or write it off from its agenda for 1986.

Let deeds speak

MINISTER OF Tourism Mohammad Al Khatib's statement to parliament last week that Jordan has started paying more attention to domestic tourism is good news, though we have heard similar statements many times during the past several decades, without seeing the subsequent results. To say that domestic tourism is important and should be promoted, and actually to do something about it, have always proved to be two different things in Jordan. Past statements by previous governments on the same subject have largely remained ink on paper. A tour around Jordan's dozens of interesting archaeological sites or regions of natural beauty (such as the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley, the desert oases, or Wadi Mujib, to mention only a few) quickly shows that proper touristic facilities are few and far between. And where facilities exist (such as at Aqaba, Jerash, Petra and Amman) marketing is haphazard, piecemeal and uncoordinated on a national basis. The fact is, we do have many interesting places and sites to offer the foreign tourist and our own people. But these attractions can only be properly exploited if they are developed, serviced, maintained and marketed according to a coherent touristic marketing strategy that is agreed upon and implemented jointly by all those who play a role in the tourism industry — the hotels, the national airline, the travel agents, the government-owned resthouses, the taxi and bus companies, the restaurants, the souvenir shops, the Department of Antiquities and the Tourism Authority.

We believe there is considerable untapped touristic potential in Jordan, and there are promising signs that the Tourism Authority is moving in the right direction to develop domestic and international tourism in a rational and appropriate manner. In the end, however, this government, like its many predecessors, will be judged by what it does — not by what it says. The tourism sector is one that lends itself to fast action and quick results. We look forward to both.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Christians support Muslims

THE heads of Christian communities in Jordan Friday issued a statement pledging all Arab Christians' support for their Muslim brothers in defence of Al Aqsa Mosque and other holy shrines under Israeli occupation. The statement said that the Israeli violations are intended as acts of sacrilege against the Islamic and Christian holy places. The statement pointed out that liberation of holy places in the occupied Arab territories should start by the liberation of Arab Jerusalem. This statement is a source of pride for all Arabs who together as Christians and Muslims should join forces and take practical steps leading to the liberation of the holy land. The defence of the holy places in Palestine is a Christian responsibility as much as it is an Islamic duty. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Al Aqsa Mosque are holy places for both Christians and Muslims, and they both have to share the responsibility for regaining them and freeing them from Zionist occupation. The Friday statement constitutes also a call to Christians in the west to shoulder their responsibility towards their holy shrines now being desecrated by the Zionist aggressors.

Al Dustour: Peres' allegations

ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres is continuing his tour in Europe issuing statements designed to mislead public opinion there with regard to the situation in the Middle East. Peres has been saying that no big obstacles now stand in the path of the peace process and that it is the Arabs who continue to refuse Israel's tempting proposals for peace. Peres has been trying to appear as a man of peace despite the fact that many of his audiences were far from being persuaded by his statements because they realise that Israel still occupies Arab land and continues acts of aggression on the Arabs in total contradiction of peace he has been advocating. But Peres' statements contained falsehoods that indeed exposed his intentions and objectives. He has refused an Arab proposal for holding an international conference to reach peace and continues to deny the Palestinian people their rights and refuses to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organisation which represents these people. What Peres wants from the Arabs is total capitulation and no peace. He does not want to implement Security Council Resolution 242, refuses to speak to the Palestinians and clings to the land Israel has been occupying since 1967. As Peres continues his campaign abroad, his soldiers continue their arbitrary measures against the Arab population and his government pursues efforts to seize Arab holy places.

Sawt Al Shaab: Yemen's politics

OBSERVERS of the political developments inside South Yemen were not surprised at the sudden outbreak of hostilities between the warring factions of the ruling Socialist Party. Rivalry between the two sides had been brewing ever since the British left the country following a revolution in which all factions took part. The rivalry between the factions caused Abdul Fattah Ismail, who established the Socialist Party to lose his job in an ignominious manner. Of course the defeated faction was, all this time, biding for time and awaiting the opportune moment to re-institute itself as the dominant power in the country; and this resulted in the recent outbreak of fighting. Of course there will be a long time before observers can know the details about the developments which led to the armed confrontation and the real reasons behind the fresh coup. We would have liked to see the two factions settling their differences in a civilised manner without bloodshed and resort to arms. Any resort to arms in settling conflicts within the party is regarded as a violation of the party's principles and regulations, and the fighting which caused the loss of thousands of lives and the destruction of large areas of Aden is to be regarded as a means for weakening the country and endangering its independence.

Attas takes over S. Yemen leadership

BAHRAIN — Prime Minister Haikar Abubaker Al Attas was named Friday as South Yemen's interim head of state after a bloody 12-day power struggle ousted President Ali Nasser Mohammed.

Attas, appointed premier by Nasser Mohammed a year ago, was in New Delhi when bitter fighting between pro-Moscow factions of the ruling Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) broke out on January 13.

He cancelled a visit to China and flew to Moscow to await the outcome of the struggle.

Attas was sworn in as prime minister on February 14 last year after being elected to the YSP politburo the previous month.

In October, he became the third-ranking member of the politburo after Nasser Mohammed and former Defence Minister Ali Ahmed Nasser Antar, who was reported killed in this month's struggle for power.

Born into a prominent family in 1939 in the Hadramaut area in central South Yemen, Attas held ministerial posts in the public works field since 1969, in line with his civil engineering training.

He is a Marxist like South Yemen's other senior politicians,

including both Nasser Mohammed and his opponents. "He's more than just a technocrat," one diplomat commented.

The diplomat added, however, that it made more sense to look at his career "in terms of Yemeni politics than pro-Soviet or anti-Soviet leanings."

Diplomats say personal loyalties dominate South Yemeni politics more than ideology.

Attas, a father of three, was named public works and communications minister in 1969 and became a central committee member in 1972.

In 1977 he became minister of construction, a post he held till he was sworn in as prime minister last year in place of Nasser Mohammed, who remained head of state.

When he took office, Attas said his new government would continue efforts to achieve union with neighbouring North Yemen, officially non-aligned but pro-Western in practice.

He also said his government would concentrate on exploring for oil, on exploiting other mineral resources and on fisheries. North Yemen discovered significant oil deposits near the border in 1984.

Erosion of apartheid is too slow for many blacks

By Victor Mallet

Reuter

CAPE TOWN — President P.W. Botha, who has just turned 70, looks set to spend this year and the rest of his political career steadily eroding apartheid while maintaining the white race's grip on power in South Africa.

This is the view of Western diplomats and political analysts here. Observing unabated rioting in black townships, they see 1986 as another critical year for reform of the country's internationally condemned system of racial segregation.

Botha and his cabinet are certain to announce further measures to ease apartheid during the parliamentary session which begins at the end of this month, government sources say.

But the president's ruling National Party, anxious about loss of support from right-wing whites who want the apartheid status quo maintained, is unlikely to satisfy growing aspirations of the black majority, the analysts said.

Botha himself has stood firmly by the principle of segregated schools and residential areas and there are no signs that one of the main foundations of apartheid, the Population Registration Act which classifies people by race from birth, is to be dismantled.

"Too little, too late," was the cry of the government's black opponents last year each time Pretoria announced the demise of another apartheid law, such as one barring marriage between whites and blacks.

Western diplomats stationed in South Africa and political analysts expect that cry to be repeated this year.

There is feverish speculation among politicians, diplomats and the media about the possible contents of Botha's speech to open parliament on January 31.

"It will be measured not by what (British Prime Minister Margaret) Thatcher says or what Ronald Reagan says but by what the people of South Africa want for themselves and for their children," anti-apartheid churchman Allan Boesak told a prayer meeting recently.

Apartheid provisions likely to be amended this year include the "pass laws", the regulations loathed by conservative and radical blacks alike which restrict where blacks may live and work, government sources said.

The government is also expected to work towards the restoration of South African citizenship to millions of blacks who were forced to become nationals of nominally independent tribal homelands.

The coming session will be the second of a new assembly which includes Indian and coloured

(mixed race) members in separate and junior debating chambers alongside the "traditional" white chamber. Blacks are still excluded.

"The year 1986, events are making increasingly clear, is to be the year of greatly accelerated reform," said a recent state radio commentary which invariably reflects official thinking.

It said that this year "on a wide variety of fronts, reform initiated earlier will come into operation, discriminatory measures that have been investigated are to be dealt with and progress must be made in giving practical effect to fundamental policies formulated and spelt out during 1985."

Opinions in South Africa and abroad on the significance of any reforms will inevitably differ sharply.

Visiting U.S. congressmen said after meeting Botha this month they had little hope that major changes were in the offing.

But Swiss banker Fritz Leutwiler, mediating between Pretoria and foreign banks over billions of dollars of frozen South African debt repayments, said he was confident of political reforms after meeting Botha.

Botha has ruled out a one-person, one-vote democracy in a unitary state, and newspapers have speculated his government is considering a form of federation ensuring continued white minority dominance.

Over 1,000 people, mostly black, have died in the past two years of racial violence and the African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group says it is stepping up its campaign to overthrow the government.

Botha has been under pressure from extreme right-wing whites to crack down even more harshly on black dissent instead of concentrating on reform.

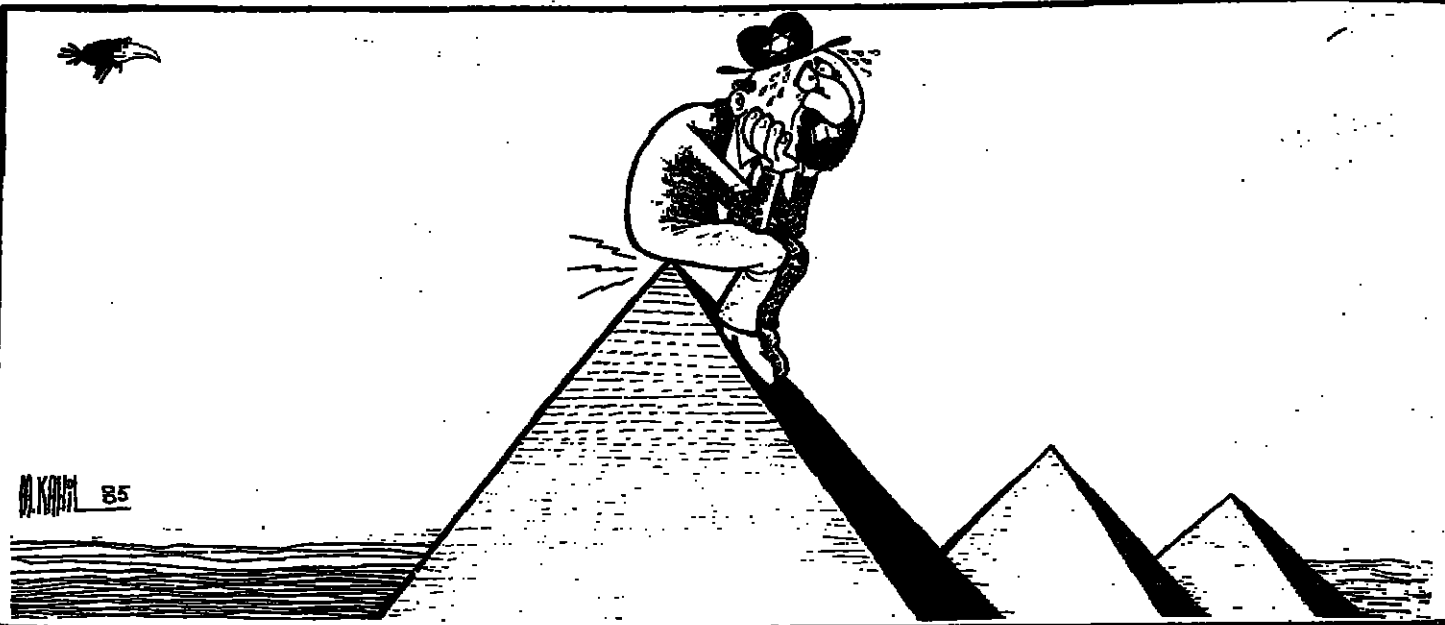
But Botha's National Party, in power since 1948, is still overwhelmingly dominant in white politics and does not need to face a white general election until 1989.

A recent survey of whites by the state-funded Human Sciences Research Council found 56.2 per cent of whites wanted blacks to be included in parliament in some way, while 65.5 per cent supported either Botha or the National Party or both.

Only one per cent of whites said they favoured a future under black majority rule.

"On the eve of the parliamentary session the message from the whites is clear — don't stop now," said Cape Town's centrist Argus newspaper in an editorial on the survey.

"In fact let's get a move on towards a negotiated dispensation in which all the people of South Africa have a share in running their country."



Pakistan faces uncertain future after end of military rule

By Barry Renfrew

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The end of almost nine years of military rule was greeted by many Pakistanis with silence and uncertainty in a country dominated by military regimes and authoritarian governments for most of its brief history.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, head of the new civilian government, has vowed to reverse Pakistan's history of upheaval and repression by building democracy and modernising the poor, backward country. Junejo appealed to his countrymen the day after the lifting of martial law Dec. 30 to turn their backs on the past.

"Let us pledge as a dignified nation on this historic occasion that in the future there should be no change of government in this sacred land either through agitation or through martial law, but the formation and change of government should be through a democratic process," he said.

But former military ruler Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq remains in power as president and as army commander with decisive control over the government. Most of Pakistan's political parties are bitterly opposed to Zia and reject the presidentially-appointed Junejo as a powerless puppet of the military.

In lifting martial law, Zia warned not to expect any major changes and said discord would only mean another military intervention in a country which has been controlled by the military for 27 of its 38 years.

"The new democratic order of 1985 is neither a rival nor an adversary of the outgoing system," he told parliament in ending martial law.

"Indeed, it is an extension of the system that has been in existence for the past several years."

The lifting of martial law was greeted largely with silence from most people. There were no popular celebrations and security forces were alert in the days following Zia's announcement in case of demonstrations or other trouble.

Many political observers say Junejo faces a monumental task in trying to build a democratic system and there is no proof he has any significant popular support. The opposition, fearing it could be eclipsed if Junejo gains support, may soon challenge the new government with civil agitation as the parties reassert themselves, the observers say.

"Much will depend on how the civilianised regime and the major political parties accommodate each other. Both are likely to lose if confrontation is pushed to its extreme," said Hassan Askari Rizvi, a political scientist at Punjab University.

The Prime Minister Dec. 31 unveiled an ambitious five-point plan to tackle the country's many problems. Junejo's programme calls for development of an Islamic democratic system, wiping out illiteracy, an anti-corruption drive, an economic programme to end unemployment and boost living standards, a strong defense force and a non-aligned foreign policy.

Pakistani newspapers applauded Junejo's aims, but warned that the country had seen many development programmes that failed by attempting too much. Pakistan's illiteracy rate is 73 per cent, the country is increasingly dependent on foreign aid and most of the population of 93 million lives at the subsistence level. Many political observers fear that the quiet, unassuming prime minister is a weak man, unlikely to stand up to Zia or the opposition. Trained in Britain as an agronomist, the prime minister's limited political experience is also a problem, they say.

"The man may be decent, but that's not what we need," said one observer who, like others, insisted on not being named.

At the same time, Junejo's personal reputation and his insistence that his sole concern is building a democratic system has earned some cautious approval.

"What he may lack in charisma, he more than makes up in a rep-

utation for honesty and cleanliness. There is yet another positive aspect: Unlike most others in this position, he does not seem to be prepared to cling to his high office at any cost," said The Muslim, a leading newspaper that was critical of the military government.

One of Junejo's major problems is that he was appointed prime minister by Zia after parliamentary elections last February that the opposition boycotted and he is seen by many as being dependent on the president.

Zia, who was declared the winner of a five-year presidential term in a referendum in which he ran unopposed in December 1984, substantially enlarged presidential powers before ending martial law. The president, for now, appoints the prime minister, the country's four provincial governors, commanders of the armed forces and top judges and can dissolve the national assembly.

The military is the most powerful force in Pakistan and Zia's decision to remain as army commander means he can reimpose martial law if he feels threatened or decides events are getting out of hand. The Muslim commented.

Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party and the country's top opposition leader, greeted the end of martial law by saying nothing would change until Zia was ousted.

Kabul campaigns for non-Communist support

By Tom Heneghan

Reuter

KABUL — Nearly eight years after seizing power, Afghanistan's Communist Party has launched a hectic campaign to drum up support beyond the small circle of its revolutionary elite.

Recent months have seen a flurry of meetings and speeches here stressing that the party, an island of modern-minded radicals in a sea of traditional Islamic values, wants all but its anti-Communist rebel foes to work alongside it.

With great fanfare, Kabul has brought Muslim clergy, border tribes and even private businessmen into its revolutionary council, or legislature, to win more acceptance from social groups which the non-party delegates represent.

The whole effort plays down Communism in favour of a nationalist approach sometimes seeming at odds with Kabul's main ally, Moscow.

Officials say the new course is divorced from any success or failure in Kabul's six-year war against the rebels, a struggle continuing mostly at hotspots outside the well-defended capital and other Communist-held areas.

Communists from President Babrak Karmal down, however, insist the seeming openness does not mean a dilution of the dominant role of the party which staged a coup in April 1978 and was backed up by Soviet troops 20 months later.

However they explain it, the new course appears to mark a realisation that the party still has to work with "old Afghanistan" while trying to turn this backward

mountain country into a Communist state.

The Afghan Communist Party, despite recent rapid growth, has only 142,000 members in a country that had a pre-war population of 15 million.

Abdul Rahim Hatf, whose National Fatherland Front (NFF) has the job of rallying non-Communists around the party, admitted to visiting Western journalists that his organisation had "not succeeded in achieving all its tasks."

He added: "The revolution cannot discard people whose participation it needs to modernise the party. More than 99 per cent of our population believes in Islam."

To counter rebel charges that Islam is threatened, Kabul has spent 1.2 billion Afghanis (\$21 million) in the past four years to build new mosques, pay clergy and send Afghans on pilgrimage to Mecca, Religious Affairs Minister Abdul Wali Hujjat said.

In Kabul's new, well-carpeted and amply heated Wazir Akbar Khan Mosque, Hujjat's deputy, Sarwar Mansoor gave the visiting journalists a taste of the government's message.

"Previous regimes paid no attention to Islam," Mansoor told a congregation of mostly old men clutching magazines with pictures of Karmal praying on Islamic holy days.

"But this government is paying mullahs, building new mosques and repairing old ones damaged or destroyed by the counter-revolutionists," he said.

The second target group, the stubborn Pastun and Baluch tribes living along the eastern border

with Pakistan, is essential in Kabul's bid to seal the frontier against guerrillas armed and trained in Pakistan.

Kabul held a traditional "loya jirga" or tribal assembly, last April and followed it with a special border tribes Jirga in September which included 1,200 Pakistani tribesmen among its 3,700 participants.

The tribesmen are now featured daily on television and at special rallies to whip up support for them.

The message is clear — the tribes are Afghan and must block the infiltrating rebels.

Pakistan handed Kabul a golden opportunity to present itself as their natural defender when it sent troops into the traditionally autonomous Khyber Pass area last month to disperse pro-Afghan chiefs.

The private sector — most domestic trade remains in private hands — also is being wooed, with "national capitalism" now described as an essential pillar of economic development.

"The state is helping the private sector to invest, especially in the food industry," Syed Amanullah, a vice-president of the revolutionary council and representative of national capitalists said.

Sarwar Mangal, head of the state planning committee, sketched the need for private support with figures showing the economy shrunk during the first two years of the war and has grown only by eight per cent since 1978.

Building and repairing war-damaged roads would take up to 70 per cent of the state's civilian

budget next year, he said, adding that military expenditure was "high."

All this is being done in the name of what Kabul calls its "national democratic revolution" with the fewest possible references to Communism, Marxist-Leninism or to Soviet models.

Mangal, for example said he would like to see American, West German, French, Chinese and United Nations experts return to complete development projects abandoned when the war began.

Hojjat, a Muslim cleric, also kept his verbal distance from Communism.

"That's not what we are concerned about at the moment," he said, although he added: "Who knows what our grandchildren will believe. We are supporting the national democratic revolution."

Asked whether he preferred Soviet Communism or the Islamic government in Iran, he said: "We do not accept either of them."

A Soviet working here said Kabul's new course was above all a practical step.

"The party was forced to make its first change from a hard-line policy in 1979 when what is now called the 'ultra-revolutionary' approach taken by Karmal's predecessor, Hafizullah Amin, stoked up the Islamic backlash that had begun shortly after the 1978 coup."

"In revolutionary terms, what they are doing is a step backwards, but a necessary one," said the Soviet who asked not to be identified. "The party was too far ahead of the people," he said. "They cannot continue this revolution without more support from the people."

Refaat Al Sayed, the richest man in Sweden, draws controversy

By Stephen M. Moore

STOCKHOLM — Less than two years ago, Refaat Al Sayed was a struggling entrepreneur, faced with a cash crunch so severe that it forced him to sell his share in the biotechnology company, Fermenta AB.

Today, he is the richest man in Sweden, and Fermenta, which he still controls, is about to become a billion-dollar firm, and biotechnology is one of the hottest transactions in Swedish history.

Mr. Al Sayed's rapid rise to the top of the biotechnology industry has caused public security analysts to complain that "alarming" information is being disseminated before the ink has time to dry.

"Impossible to analyse"

It is an impossible company to analyse, nobody in the market has a clue about how he's doing it," says Alastair Kilgour, a pharmaceutical specialist at London brokerage Quilter Goodson & Co.

As Fermenta sets out to challenge the giants of the world drug and biotechnology industries, a lot of people are giving the company a closer look. "When Mr. Al Sayed was assembling a series of third- and fourth-rate businesses, he could be taken lightly," says David MacCallum, senior technical analyst at U.S. brokerage Hambrecht & Quist Inc. "But no one will be taking him lightly now."

A native Egyptian who emigrated to Sweden as a college student in the 1960s, Mr. Al Sayed bought the loss-making penicillin unit of Sweden's AB Astra in 1981. He scraped together financing for the 39 million Swedish kronor (\$5.1 million) purchase with the help of a SKr2.5 million (\$325,000) loan from appliance maker AB Electrolux.

In 1984, when the company was in severe financial straits, Electrolux offered to inject SKr9 million of new equity, seeking 51 per cent of Fermenta stock in return. But Mr. Al Sayed balked at giving up control.

Going public

Instead, he and a Stockholm banker hit on the bold idea of trying to sell the company to a foreign buyer.

Qadhafi sails out to Gulf of Sirte to 'fight' U.S. fleet

(Continued from page 1)

It was not immediately clear if Col. Qadhafi was claiming a Libyan waters the entire central Mediterranean as far as the territorial limits of Malta and Sicily as Libyan waters.

Col. Qadhafi sailed out into the choppy Mediterranean in the 350-tonne Libyan patrol boat Wamidi (Lightning), loaded with four French-made Mistral missiles. Another missile-carrying boat followed.

Reporters were taken aboard Col. Qadhafi's yacht Farah and followed the two navy ships for about five kilometres out of Misurata harbour. The yacht then turned back and the patrol boats were last seen heading northeast across the Gulf.

Geagea seeks peace with Syria

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Geagea said. Asked if Syria would talk peace with him, he replied: "Why not?"

First indication of the policy change came in a militia communiqué Friday night announcing Mr. Geagea as the new leader. "We refuse to be pushed into a confrontation with Syria," it said.

Further indications came as Maronite Christian notables, unhappy about the pact's proposals to give Muslims more power, met to thrash out a common approach to Syria.

"We want agreement with the Syrians, we want a dialogue with them," said former President Camille Chamoun, one of the participants. "I am against a military showdown."

Political observers say "Lebanese Forces" regulars and army troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel could do little against an all-out attack by Syria's estimated 25,000 troops in Lebanon.

But they say such an assault is unlikely, adding it would sharpen traditionally anti-Syrian sentiment among Maronites.

Traditional Christian res-

Cabinet lifts curbs on Arab capital

(Continued from page 1)

can buy and sell Central Bank government bonds without any restrictions or conditions.

Non-Jordanian Arab investors will enjoy exemptions from tax or other fees as offered to Jordanians investing in the above mentioned sectors.

Arab funds and capital are safeguarded and protected by law in

ing to sell a small stake of the unknown company in a public offering. Against long odds, the share issue succeeded, bringing in the crucial equity but leaving 84 per cent of voting stock in Mr. Al Sayed's hands.

It was a turning point for Fermenta and for Mr. Al Sayed. Through a series of adroit takeovers, he has built Fermenta into a leading independent producer of bulk antibiotics. The company's sales and earnings have soared, and Fermenta has been the hottest stock on the Stockholm exchange, climbing tenfold in value since the August 1984 public offering. The 51 per cent Fermenta stake Electrolux sought now carries a market value of almost SKr4 billion.

Early January, Mr. Al Sayed took his biggest step yet. Sharing the spotlight with AB Volvo Chairman Pehr Gyllenhammar, he announced plans for a series of transactions that would give Fermenta control of most of Sweden's drug and biotechnology industries.

Sweden has never seen anything like Mr. Al Sayed. Despite his wealth and keen sense of self-promotion, his unpretentious lifestyle and socialist political leanings have brought him huge popularity — in contrast to public opinion about most rich Swedes.

He lives in a condominium apartment in a middle-class Stockholm suburb, is married to a social worker and keeps in shape by playing in a municipal soccer league. He is a card-carrying union member, and the so-called wage-earner funds are large shareholders in Fermenta.

But he also is a staunch supporter of stock option plans, and many of his employees have become millionaires through Fermenta stock. In a recent survey by a financial magazine, businessmen voted Mr. Al Sayed Sweden's second most-respected executive — after Volvo's Mr. Gyllenhammar. One of two channels on state-controlled Swedish television named Mr. Al Sayed Man of the Year for 1985.

That's not to say that the biotechnology entrepreneur hasn't ever come under fire. When Fermenta stock began its dramatic climb early last year, there was speculation that the rise owed as much to the way the stock was traded as to the company's performance. The allegations faded as the price held up under greatly increased trading.

Such insinuations enrage Mr. Al Sayed, who charges that the rum-

ors were part of a smear campaign mounted by institutions that wanted more Fermenta stock and brokers that wanted to handle Fermenta share issues, but were turned down.

"I hate investors, and their manner. Coming to a company and pretending to be big shots when they're not," he growls. "They use your blood without much attention, and once you fall out of favour, you are down, dead."

Short, wiry and intense in conversation, his hoarse voice can be difficult to hear. He speaks rapidly, changing subjects suddenly and leaving sentences half-finished. Language can also be a problem. "His English is hard to understand," in Swedish, it's even more difficult," says a brokerage executive who has done business with him.

Mr. Al Sayed's stock-market wheeler and dealing with his substantial private holdings has also exposed him to criticism. He played a much-debated role in the takeover battle for a commercial bank in which he was a large shareholder. And his takeover bid for holding company Foerretagsfinans AB two months ago raised eyebrows even among his supporters.

Yet Mr. Al Sayed's deal-making prowess has been one of Fermenta's most valuable assets. By expanding through acquisitions, and convincing sellers to accept Fermenta stock as payment, Mr. Al Sayed avoided taking on heavy debt, the pitfall of many start-up companies.

Emulating his early mentors at Electrolux (whose chief executive officer Gosta Bystedt is Fermenta's chairman), Mr. Al Sayed quickly restructured acquisitions. Divesting unwanted units often recovered much of the purchase price.

Penicillin stressed

At the start, Fermenta concentrated on bulk production of penicillin, buying companies in France, Italy and the U.S. The immediate goal was to buy up fermentation capacity, and make semi-finished antibiotics.

Mr. Al Sayed formed the idea for this business strategy during a stint as a pharmaceuticals consultant in the U.S., where he also obtained a doctorate in microbiology at the University of California's Davis campus. "Fermentation is too small a part of a drug company's operations for them to bother with," he says.

"They neglect applying new technology that would increase efficiency and maximise operations." By revamping production and introducing more efficient new strains of bacteria, Fermenta reaped quick gains in productivity and profit. And by stopping at bulk antibiotics, the fledgling company avoided heavy costs of marketing, or research and development.

It was quite a sensible idea, and he found a profitable niche," says Quilter Goodson's Mr. Kilgour.

More acquisitions after 1983 greatly expanded fermentation capacity, and bolstered the core penicillin production with increasingly sophisticated, faster growing and more profitable antibiotics. As a share of production, penicillin products fell to an estimated 15 per cent last year from 98 per cent in 1983.

Fermenta also entered the market at an auspicious time. Prices had rebounded from depressed levels of the late 1970s. As patents expired on several leading antibiotics, new generic drug makers appeared, expanding the market for independent raw materials suppliers like Fermenta.

"Last year, Fermenta began to make its presence felt in European markets, and we consider them a serious competitor," says a spokesman for Dutch drug maker Gist-brocades N.V.

But Mr. Al Sayed's ambitions go far beyond bulk antibiotics. He wants Fermenta to be the world's No. 1 biotechnology company by 1990. Vital to that goal is adding a genetic engineering company to the current organisation.

In a typical whirlwind courtship last spring, Mr. Al Sayed wooed Sweden's state-owned drug company, KabiVitrum AB. Sweden's only gene splicer of note, KabiVitrum is collaborating with Genentech Inc. of the U.S. in developing a human growth hormone. Fermenta and KabiVitrum made a preliminary agreement to merge, but the plan collapsed when the companies failed to agree on a price after months of talks.

Later Mr. Al Sayed pursued U.S. genetic engineering concern Amgen Inc., but the overture was rebuffed by Amgen's major shareholders. Through a stock swap with the Kebo AB unit of investment AB Beijer, a large Fermenta shareholder, Mr. Al Sayed later acquired a 9.5 per cent holding in Amgen.

"An unknown quantity"

Indeed, Mr. Al Sayed's magic seems to pale beyond Sweden's borders. "To say that he is an unknown quantity in the U.S. doesn't begin to describe how unknown he is. Nobody here knows anything about Mr. Al Sayed," says Hambrecht & Quist's Mr. MacCallum.

A British fund manager with money invested in Swedish biotechnology concerns turned down offers to buy Fermenta shares. "He has achieved a lot from a small base, and Fermenta has developed its own momentum, but there is not much substance behind it," the fund manager says. He worries that the company relies too much on one man — one who spends much of his time jetting around the world making deals.



Refaat el-Sayed

FERMENTA

Employees: 1713

Sales Pre-tax Profit
(in millions of SKr)

'85*	1,400	300
'84	441	74
'83	138	4
'82	95	2

*Estimated

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At the start, Fermenta concentrated on bulk production of penicillin, buying companies in France, Italy and the U.S. The immediate goal was to buy up fermentation capacity, and make semi-finished antibiotics.

Mr. Al Sayed formed the idea for this business strategy during a stint as a pharmaceuticals consultant in the U.S., where he also obtained a doctorate in microbiology at the University of California's Davis campus. "Fermentation is too small a part of a drug company's operations for them to bother with," he says.

"They neglect applying new technology that would increase efficiency and maximise operations." By revamping production and introducing more efficient new strains of bacteria, Fermenta reaped quick gains in productivity and profit. And by stopping at bulk antibiotics, the fledgling company avoided heavy costs of marketing, or research and development.

It was quite a sensible idea, and he found a profitable niche," says Quilter Goodson's Mr. Kilgour.

More acquisitions after 1983 greatly expanded fermentation capacity, and bolstered the core penicillin production with increasingly sophisticated, faster growing and more profitable antibiotics. As a share of production, penicillin products fell to an estimated 15 per cent last year from 98 per cent in 1983.

Fermenta also entered the market at an auspicious time. Prices had rebounded from depressed levels of the late 1970s. As patents expired on several leading antibiotics, new generic drug makers appeared, expanding the market for independent raw materials suppliers like Fermenta.

"Last year, Fermenta began to make its presence felt in European markets, and we consider them a serious competitor," says a spokesman for Dutch drug maker Gist-brocades N.V.

But Mr. Al Sayed's ambitions go far beyond bulk antibiotics. He wants Fermenta to be the world's No. 1 biotechnology company by 1990. Vital to that goal is adding a genetic engineering company to the current organisation.

In a typical whirlwind courtship last spring, Mr. Al Sayed wooed Sweden's state-owned drug company, KabiVitrum AB. Sweden's only gene splicer of note, KabiVitrum is collaborating with Genentech Inc. of the U.S. in developing a human growth hormone. Fermenta and KabiVitrum made a preliminary agreement to merge, but the plan collapsed when the companies failed to agree on a price after months of talks.

Later Mr. Al Sayed pursued U.S. genetic engineering concern Amgen Inc., but the overture was rebuffed by Amgen's major shareholders. Through a stock swap with the Kebo AB unit of investment AB Beijer, a large Fermenta shareholder, Mr. Al Sayed later acquired a 9.5 per cent holding in Amgen.

"An unknown quantity"

Indeed, Mr. Al Sayed's magic seems to pale beyond Sweden's borders. "To say that he is an unknown quantity in the U.S. doesn't begin to describe how unknown he is. Nobody here knows anything about Mr. Al Sayed," says Hambrecht & Quist's Mr. MacCallum.

A British fund manager with money invested in Swedish biotechnology concerns turned down offers to buy Fermenta shares. "He has achieved a lot from a small base, and Fermenta has developed its own momentum, but there is not much substance behind it," the fund manager says. He worries that the company relies too much on one man — one who spends much of his time jetting around the world making deals.

Yemen, past and present

Contemporary Yemen: politics & historical background

Economy, Society & Culture in contemporary Yemen

By Paul Adams

THESE PAPERS from the symposium arranged by Exeter University's centre for Arab Gulf Studies in 1983 cover a broad field. Concerned with both the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) in the north and the People's Democratic Republic of (south) Yemen (PDRY), they discuss issues as wide-ranging as urban conservation and the economics of qat, and as historically diverse as the Islamisation of Yemen and the prospects for future unification.

For those with first-hand experience of either country there is much absorbing material. Shalegh Weir's defence of qat is a particularly thought-provoking example, challenging as it does the accepted view of the effects of the drug on Yemeni agriculture and economy. Anticipating that the YAR will in future be thrown back on its own resources (when the demand for cheap labour in Saudi Arabia diminishes), Weir suggests that qat can be considered the natural guardian of a dormant agricultural potential, keeping at least some of the rural population on the land in the areas where it is grown.

Anyone who has had recent contact with either Yemen will agree that these two countries are entering crucial phases in their development. In both, a couple of decades of uncertainty following their respective revolutions have given way to a stage of relative stability, in which both the YAR and the PDRY need to concentrate on practicable objectives. Here the perennial question of unification looms large. For a few years there has been no open war-fare between the two; but it would be foolish, Ursula Braun suggests, to assume that a merger is politically feasible in the near future. "The pattern of dialogue and confrontation will, according to all experience, persist." Both countries are aware of the risks involved and recognise the value of gradual cooperation as the only viable course for the time being.

Here, as elsewhere in these volumes, we are left looking to the future, generally with anxiety. Hopes and fears, warnings and recommendations, alternate with each other, reflecting a real preoccupation with what lies ahead. Is the new Marib dam project, for example, "economically absurd,"

as Horst Kopp insists, or are we to take heart from this bold project, which Ueli Brunner puts into its historical perspective? And there is the question of oil (not covered here, since the symposium was held before Hunt Oil announced its strike in the YAR). Is oil to be an economic panacea or just another problematical jolt into the modern world? In the YAR, where tribal politics survive and traditional economic structures have not been overturned to the extent they have in the PDRY, such issues are the more acute.

A prime example of the pitfalls often associated with rapid progress can be seen in the old city of Sana'a, where motor traffic, the rising consumption of domestic water without a proper sewage system and the use of modern building materials combine to threaten the surviving glories of traditional Yemeni architecture. Ronald Lewcock's paper on architectural conservation is heartfelt and compelling. Cynthia Myntti, in her paper on "Changing Attitudes towards Health", highlights the role of traditional "preventive philosophy" in the lives of ordinary people and concludes that: "The constructive, traditional philosophy of self-reliance and personal responsibility for the promotion of health is present in Yemen. The modern medical establishment would do well to build on it, not encourage the Yemeni people to lose it."

Not all of these papers are concerned with contemporary issues. There is a concise account of the spread of Islam in Yemen by D. Thomas Goehner; Jon Mandaville describes "The Ottoman Experience in Yemen"; and Mohammed Zabarab presents a social analysis of the 1962 revolution in the YAR in which he concludes that traditional values must not be forgotten in the flood-tide of material progress: "We must recall that gradual changes are more suited to Yemen, because traditional patterns need the opportunity to adapt to change" — Middle East International, London.

Studies on the Thamaa edited by Francine Stone Longman, London 1985.

By Michael Adams

ONLY DURING the last 15 years has the Yemen Arab Republic been open to the Western traveller. Before that, no more than a handful of venturesome and unusually persistent explorers had penetrated the borders of Yemen, sealed as they were by a suspicious

autocrat whose death in 1962 was followed by nine years of bitter civil war. Since 1970, hampered still by political uncertainties and, until very recently, by the lack of modern communications, scholars and archaeologists have begun to chart the history of a country whose fame was widespread in the ancient world but which for more than a thousand years was almost lost to Western view.

Even then it was the High Yemen, the complex of mountain ranges between the Red Sea and the Euphrates Quarter of the great Arabian desert, which monopolised the attention of European travellers. So striking is this landscape and so distinctive the architecture of Sana'a, the ancient capital, that it is not surprising that few of the spared time to explore the Thamaa, the hot and outwardly inhospitable coastal plain which looks westward across the Red Sea to Africa and which, as far as the outside world was concerned, continued to languish in obscurity.

It was no remedy this neglect that the seven members of the Thamaa Expedition set out in 1982. They included three artists — not photographers — and their aim was to record as much as possible of the old pattern of life in the Thamaa before the tide of modernisation overtook it, as it has overtaken and begun to transform the traditional social and economic structures of the highlands. Here, three years later, are the fruits of their endeavour: along with a brief account of the physical aspect of the Thamaa and of its history, illustrated where possible with archaeological detail, there are papers on the flora and fauna, the architecture, the local crafts and customs and even the music of a corner of the world never before subjected to such close and comprehensive examination.

The editor's claims are modest. "We have assembled 'what we know'," she says, "and offer it with the awareness that it is very little." So it is, in simple quantitative terms, for these are preliminary studies which their authors hope will stimulate others to undertake further research. In wider terms, their achievement could be much greater if they succeed in calling the attention of the Yemenis themselves to the need for urgent action to conserve the distinctive features, both natural and man-made, of an environment unlike any other and as yet scarcely touched by the corruption inseparable from material progress — Middle East International, London.

Mr. Ali Ensour Managing Director Arab Potash Company Ltd., P.O. Box 1470 Tel. 665165 Tlx: 21683 Potash Jo. Amman - Jordan

Mr. M.F. Hodgins Jacobs International Limited Inc., Merrion House Merrion Road Dublin 4, Ireland

Pre-qualified contractors shall be notified to collect the tender documents against a non refundable payment of 500 U.S. Dollars.

A.Y. Ensour Managing Director

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN Arab Potash Company Ltd., Notification for Pre-Qualification for Potash Refinery Modification Tender No. (A.P.C. - 2850 - 60)

The Arab Potash Co. proposes to request the World Bank for financing of the above mentioned potash refinery modification tender. Potash Refinery is located near Safi on the Dead Sea, approximately 180 km south of Amman and 200 km north of Aqaba Port. These modifications include the addition of new thickeners, pumps, agitated field erected tanks, electrical gear and instruments to handle brine and slurry streams.

The selected contractor will provide the final design, equipment and materials, the onsite construction and testing of installed facilities in accordance with the tender documents.

The Arab Potash Co. has earlier invited applications from competent contractors interested in bidding for the above tender to apply for pre-qualification. Contractors who are interested in being considered for the above tender and who are from member countries of the World Bank Switzerland and Taiwan, and didn't apply against the earlier advertisement, should submit their pre-qualification data in accordance with the pre-qualification document which is available at the Arab Potash Co. offices - Amman.

Copy of pre-qualification document should be submitted, not later than 26-2-1986 to each of the following addresses:

Mr. Ali Ensour Managing Director Arab Potash Company Ltd., P.O. Box 1470 Tel. 665165 Tlx: 21683 Potash Jo. Amman - Jordan

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Sandinistas take cheer from harvest

By Matthew Campbell

Reuter

JINOTEGA, Nicaragua — Grappling with grave economic problems and a war against U.S.-backed guerrillas, Nicaragua's government has nevertheless found cause for cheer in this year's coffee harvest.

A drought in Brazil, which has sent coffee prices soaring on world markets, and an apparent decrease in guerrilla activities in the main coffee-growing areas have given new impetus to the harvest of Nicaragua's most valuable cash crop.

The crop itself is also providing good news — it is expected to be 10 per cent larger than last year. Thousands of volunteers — including several hundred from abroad — have converged on the richest coffee-growing states of Jinotega and Matagalpa to help gather the crop which generally accounts for around one third of Nicaragua's export earnings.

Machinery and buildings destroyed in rebel attacks in these provinces last year have been replaced and rebuilt, while plantations abandoned in the last harvest are now being worked again. Officials in the area say.

The Honduran-based guerrillas have declared coffee warehouses and processing plants as legitimate targets in their battle to topple the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) which came to power at the end of a revolution in 1979.

Backed and financed by Washington — which regards Nicaragua's government as the source of Central American conflicts — the guerrillas seriously hindered last year's harvesting in Jinotega and Matagalpa.

But this year they have faced tighter defence in these provinces and their activities there appear to have been limited.

"They haven't been able to get anywhere near us this year," said Miguel Ferrupino, manager of the state-run La Sorsopa coffee processing plant set among the lush green hills of the Jinotega province.

In November 1984, the plant was razed in a guerrilla attack in which 17 workers died. Machinery destroyed in the attack has been replaced and the plant, one of the largest in Nicaragua, is back in action this year, defended by up to 100 militia members and employing some 450 pickers.

The government, hoping to take advantage of the diminished guerrilla activities and the recent surge in coffee prices, has called on the volunteers not to leave one bean unpicked.

"We must multiply efforts, raising productivity in order to obtain more foreign currency," said Bayardo Arce, a member of the FSLN's nine-man directorate, on a recent tour of the coffee areas.

This year's crop is estimated at 1.1 million 46-kg bags, up from around one million last year. Of that 900,000 bags are expected to be exported, 100,000 more than last year.

The sharply higher prices expected for the coffee will be a blessing to an economy being bled dry by a war in which more than 6,000 died in 1985 alone.

Arce said around 2,200 hectares of coffee abandoned in the last harvest because of the fighting would be harvested this year, thanks to an offensive in 1985 by the Sandinista army which claims to have "strategically" defeated the guerrillas.

Army officials say the insurgents — or "contras" as they are known here — have been unable to break through a protective ring of Sandinista troops guarding the most productive coffee areas in Jinotega and Matagalpa.

Even so, many of the volunteers in remote areas of the Jinotega province wield AK-47 rifles to defend themselves in case of an attack.

"We are prepared for any situation," said volunteer picker Federico Sequeira, a rifle slung over his shoulder and two full sacks of coffee beans at his feet.

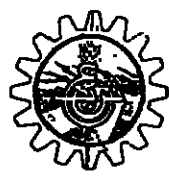
Sequeira, who works for the National Energy Institute, is one of 12,000 government volunteers from Managua who will spend up to three months picking the bright red coffee beans.

Various government offices in Managua will remain shut for the whole harvest — from November to February — so their employees can help gather the crop.

The government coffee pickers have been joined in recent years by several hundred foreign volunteers, known here as "internationalistas," who assist in the harvest as a way of expressing their support for the Sandinistas.

This year, the foreigners include volunteers from the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, Spain, France, Greece, West Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and several Latin American countries.

"There are people from all corners of the world here," said Mirek Krupicka, a 21-year-old student from Prague and one of 15 Czechoslovaks picking coffee at a plantation 50 km southeast of Jinotega.



Robson sent off after comeback with United

LONDON (R) — England captain Bryan Robson's much-heralded comeback to the Manchester United side ended in sensational fashion Saturday when he was sent off for arguing in an English Football Association (F.A.) Cup fourth round tie at Sunderland.

Robson, who has played just 12 minutes first team soccer since October because of injury, was dismissed by referee Colin Seel 11 minutes from time, seconds after Seel had booked the midfielder for fouling Sunderland's Barry Venison.

But United, who won last year's Cup final 1-0 against Everton with just 10 men after Kevin Moran was dismissed, scrambled a 0-0 draw and will be confident of beating the second division side in Wednesday's replay.

Everton, Cup winners in 1984, had an easier passage into the fifth round, winning 3-1 against manager Howard Kendall's former team Blackburn.

Defender Pat Van Den Hauwe and England striker Gary Lineker put the home side 2-0 up at half-time but Van Den Hauwe's joy was short-lived as he scored an own goal in the 53rd minute.

Lineker ensured victory with his second goal — his 26th of the season — in the 83rd minute.

Robson's dismissal provided the main talking point on a day when surprises were few and the big clubs generally brushed aside lower grade opposition.

The England captain, born just 10 kms from Sunderland's Roker Park, has been virtually out of the game since pulling a hamstring in England's World Cup 5-0 victory over Turkey in mid-October. Many feared he had returned too early for his own good as special treatment in Amsterdam only ended earlier this week.

But United, both with and without Robson, contained the home side although it needed a goal-line clearance by United centre-back Paul McGrath to prevent Paul Atkinson from giving Sunderland the lead in the 55th minute.

Tottenham, in the midst of a dreadful run of form, struggled to a 1-1 draw at second division Notts County while first division Aston Villa could only manage a 1-1 draw at home to second division Millwall.

But Sheffield Wednesday maintained their impressive first division form with a 5-0 thrashing of fourth division Orient while Arsenal's renaissance continued with a 5-1 win over third division Rotherham.

Ian Allison started the Arsenal goal rush with a penalty in the first

minute. Stewart Robson, Charlie Nicholas — with his 10th goal in 11 games — Graham Rix and Allison again completed the rout. Tommy Tynan scored for Rotherham.

Third division York ended the cup dreams of Altrincham, the last surviving non-league side, with a hard-fought 2-0 success.

And Southampton, Cup winners in 1976, eliminated third division Wigan 3-0.

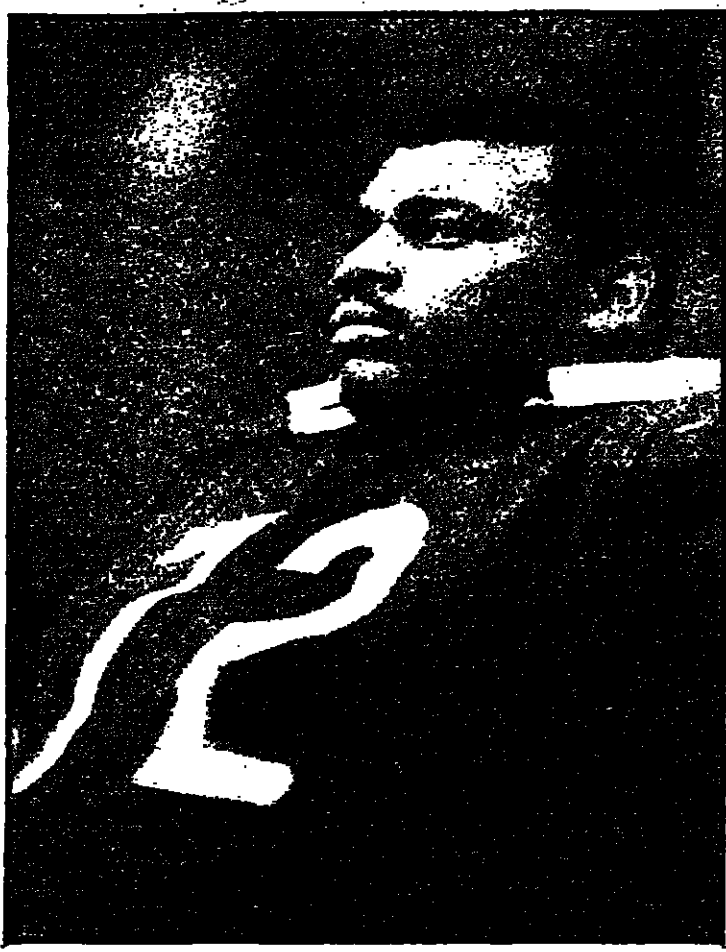
Another first division side to qualify for the fifth round at the expense of a third division side were Luton who thrashed Bristol Rovers 4-0.

Rovers, who beat first division Leicester in the previous round, were stunned by an early goal from Luton striker Mick Harford who returned to the side just three weeks after a knee operation. Ricky Hill, Stacey North and an own goal completed the score.

Chelsea and Liverpool clash Sunday in a televised tie but the two all-first division clashes Saturday both ended in predictable draws.

West Ham and Ipswich fought out a drab 0-0 draw while a 53rd minute goal by Manchester City's Gordon Davies was cancelled out eight minutes later by a penalty from Watford's Kenny Jackett.

The all-second division affair between Hull and Brighton ended in a 3-2 away victory for Brighton.



William "The Refrigerator" Perry, the Chicago Bears' rookie lineman, has won fame far and wide for his girth, and is one reason for the growing popularity of the U.S. sport overseas (John Biever-SI).

Popularity of American football is growing far beyond U.S. borders

By Jack Cavanaugh
Reuter

NEW ORLEANS — In the space of a few months, William "The Refrigerator" Perry has become an American folk hero, mainly because at 310 pounds (141 kg) he can be identified with by overweight Americans.

Surprisingly, the 23-year-old first-year defensive tackle of the Super Bowl-bound Chicago Bears is also well-known in Italy, where he is called "Il Frigorifero".

And Perry may be as well known in Japan and Britain, where, as in Italy, American football is becoming increasingly popular, both as a spectator and participant sport.

"The Refrigerator" is very popular in Italy," Rino Tomassi, the sports director for channel 5, the Italian sports television network, told Reuters Friday. "Many Italians now follow American football and colourful players like Perry have made the game more popular."

Tomassi was here to do the commentary for channel 5 of Sunday's Super Bowl game between the Bears and the New England Patriots, which will be televised "live" in the Milan area at 11:15 p.m. and on tape delay throughout Italy on Monday night.

Perry, overweight even as football players go, may not be a household name in Japan. But Kaoru Kubota, who is here with a 10-man television crew to televise the game throughout Japan for the Tokyo Broadcasting System, says the massive Bears' tackle has become a sports celebrity of sorts in Japan.

"Japanese who follow sports know who Perry is, and they know most of the other National Football League stars," said Kubota, whose account of America's premier sports attraction will be televised in Japan on Monday night.

"About five million people watched last year's game in Japan, and we expect about six million to watch it on Monday."

The game will also be televised in about 30 other countries, according to NFL public relations officials. Among them will be Britain, where the game will be shown on channel 4, with Briton John Smith, a former placekicker for the Patriots, serving as the expert analyst.

Highlights of NFL games are shown every week on channel 4 in England, where American football has become very popular," said Hugh McLivney of the London Observer, one of three British sportswriters here to cover Super Bowl XX.

More and more Britons are playing American-style football on an amateur club level, McLivney said. But in Italy the game is even more popular, with 72 semi-professional teams competing in three different leagues, along with about 15 junior leagues, according to Tomassi.

"Each of the semi-professional teams is allowed to have a maximum of two American players who are paid as much as \$50,000 plus expenses," said Tomassi, whose network televises an hour of NFL highlights each Tuesday night during the U.S. football season.

Crowds at the games in Italy, which are played during the spring and summer, range from about 2,000 to 10,000, said Tomassi, who is also covering the game for three Italian newspapers. In recent years, the Italian league has staged its own Super Bowl, and last July 25,000 spectators turned out to see the Bologna Frogs beat Basto Arsiz in Italy's version, Tomassi said.

Interest in Britain and Japan has been heightened in the past few years by the appearance of American teams.

American football grew in popularity in Britain following an exhibition game between two NFL teams a few years ago in Wembley Stadium.

In Japan, crowds of more than 50,000 have attended the Japan Bowl involving well-known U.S. college teams late in the autumn, and 47,000 turned out for the Japanese collegiate championship game between Meiji and Kansai Gakuin universities in Osaka last month, Kubota said.

Though there are no professional teams in Japan, the game is played by about 100 universities and approximately 70 high schools, the Japanese sportscaster told Reuters.

"We also show highlights of NFL games each week on the Tokyo Broadcasting System, which includes 25 stations, and also show tapes of games involving teams like USC (the University of Southern California) and UCLA (the University of California at Los Angeles)," Kubota said.

To date, as far as is known, American football is not being played in China. Nevertheless, Super Bowl madness apparently is even spreading there. And this year, for the first time, the Super Bowl game will be televised in China early next month.

Werder tops Saarbruecken

BONN (R) — A penalty 12 minutes from time saved West German league leaders Werder Bremen from dropping a vital point in a home game with struggling Saarbruecken Saturday.

Werder, badly missing injured striker Rudi Voeller, had all the play but ran into determined opposition from newly-promoted Saarbruecken.

They were rescued when defender Michael Kutrop converted a 78th minute penalty after midfielder Norbert Meier was brought down in the box, giving them a 1-0 victory.

Werder now have 31 points, four more than main rivals Bayern Munich and Borussia Moenchengladbach, who both won after falling behind in what appeared to be easy home matches.

Bayern trailed to a first half goal by Schalke's Klaus Tauter but veteran centre-forward Dieter

Hoeness scored twice and Danish midfielder Soren Lerby hit another for the Munich team to take a 3-1 lead. Olaf Thon's goal for Schalke two minutes from time made the final score 3-2.

Borussia were also thankful for a late penalty in their 4-3 win over relegation candidates Hanover. Wilfried Hannes, called up for World Cup training this week, scored from the spot after a hotly disputed decision 15 minutes from time.

Hanover had gone ahead through Karsten Surmann but Borussia looked to be in control when they established a 3-1 lead early in the second half through Christian Hochstaetter, Hans-Georg Drehsen and Hans-Joerg Crien.

But two goals in three minutes from Briton Dean Thomas and Fred Schaub put Hanover back in the game.

India takes revenge with rout of Kiwis

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) — The Indian cobra took revenge when it struck with full venom against New Zealand in the World Series Cup one-day dash at the Adelaide Oval Saturday.

India routed a luckless Kiwiside to score by five wickets — providing recompense for its close defeat Thursday night by New Zealand.

The world champions sent New Zealand packing for 172 off 49.2 overs after sending them in to bat Saturday morning.

Kapil Dev, Roger Binny, Raju Kulkarni and Ravishastri all grabbed two wickets each while Chetan Sharma and Mohinder Amarnath took one apiece in a dominant bowling display.

Only Richard Hadlee's 71 held New Zealand together and he should have been out for nine but was dropped by Krish Srikanth in the outfield.

India started shakily in the chase for the runs and for a while it became a battle of survival when three wickets had fallen for just 26

runs.

But a fourth wicket partnership of 59 between player-of-the-match Mohammad Azharuddin (69) and Dilip Vengsarkar (32) followed by a 73 fifth wicket stand between Azharuddin and Ashok Malhotra (33) took the Indians to an inevitable victory.

Kiwi fast medium bowler Stu Gillespie also secured a permanent hold on a seamer's position in the line-up taking 4-30 from his 10 overs.

The win puts India on six points, three points behind Australia, on the WSC table.

New Zealand, following Saturday's loss, has five points.

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If you have been registered for a year or more and have not confirmed your continuing presence in Jordan, please do so by contacting the Consular Section as soon as possible. Please also notify the Consular Section about any changes of address and/or telephone number. Such confirmation is in the interests of all British nationals in Jordan.

If names are not re-registered within three months the embassy will be obliged to consider that those concerned have left the country. The name will accordingly be deleted from the register.

If you are a citizen of a Commonwealth country which does not have an Embassy or Consulate in Jordan please ask the British Embassy, Consular Section, about registration formalities.

The British Embassy is located on Third Circle in Jabal Amman. The telephone number is 641261-8 and the Post Office Box number is 87.

The Consular Section is open from Sunday until Thursday 0830 - 1330 hours.

ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that courses in Modern Standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on the first of February, and will last for 16 weeks. Two programmes will be offered:

1. The intensive programme in which classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. The fee for these courses is JD 140 per term.
2. The regular programme in which classes meet 6 hours per week (5:30-7:10 Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday). The fee for these courses is JD 50 per term.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration between 25-29 January.

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6:30 - Midnight

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Tel: 677420

GOTCHA!

(Colour)

Performances: 7:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

COMMANDO

(Colour)

Performances: 7:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 622112

MAD MAX

(Colour)

Performances: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cine-Theatre Philadelphia

Tel: 634144 - 634149

CLOSED AND SHORTLY WILL BE REOPENED

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

WOMAN FOR SALE (Arabic)

(Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

CHAINED HEAT

((Arabic))

Performances: 7:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30

Japanese remarks trigger sharp dollar fall against yen

LONDON (R) — The dollar fell sharply against the yen on foreign exchange markets today, following reports by Japan's Finance Minister, Nobuchika Tamaki, that the dollar was overvalued at 195.70 yen.

The dollar opened for trading at 195.70 yen, down from 191.60 at the close of the previous session. The yen, in turn, rose to 191.60 against the dollar.

Mr. Tamaki's remarks triggered a wave of dollar sales in Tokyo after dealers there read a newspaper interview in which he said Japan's economy could sustain a dollar rate as high as 190.

That took the dollar down to 195.60 yen by the time European markets opened. Just a few hours later Mr. Tamaki gave the U.S. currency another swipe when he

told a press conference in Tokyo that Japan should not stop the yen's trend if it reflected market forces.

Asked if he saw a further yen rise, the Japanese minister said: "The market is now functioning by itself. I have no intention of reversing such an autonomous move by artificial means."

Japan's remarkable exporting

successes in recent years have been helped greatly by a cheap yen and economists had thought Tokyo did not want the dollar to go below 200 yen.

The yen has risen about 22 percent against the dollar since the so-called Group of Five (G-5) nations agreed to depress the U.S. currency at a meeting last September.

The G-5 countries — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain and France — met again in London last weekend and agreed to keep the dollar weak.

However, little emerged from the meeting and traders said Mr. Takeshita's remarks Friday provided the first substantial news to move the markets since last weekend.

The absence of bank interest rate rises kept sterling depressed against the mark and it traded at 3.3784 marks, just above Thursday's all-time low of 3.3716.

Sterling rose to \$1.3955 from \$1.3830 at the close here Thursday night, even though Britain's commercial banks continued to ignore pressure to raise base lending rates.

Iran reduces oil exports, halts sale to spot market

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said Iran has reduced oil exports and stopped selling oil on the spot market because of the recent steep fall in prices, Tehran radio reported Saturday.

"For the past 10 days the Islamic Republic of Iran has cut its oil shipments to international markets because it does not accept the reduced international oil prices," he was quoted as telling a news conference.

"In the face of the drop in oil prices, Iran has refrained from selling spot market oil, which is affected by the current reduced prices, and has only delivered oil on its long-term contracts," he added.

Mr. Aqazadeh spoke of an "American-British conspiracy" to drive down prices and said Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members should consider using their large level of Western imports as a weapon.

"OPEC members should reduce the amount of oil delivered to the oil markets in the short run, and consider using the import weapon in a coordinated way, as they are major importers of European and American goods," he said.

Deputy Oil Minister Hossein Kazempour Ardebili Friday said Iran would impose sanctions against North Sea producers Britain and Norway unless they reduced production.

Mr. Aqazadeh said at the news conference: "If OPEC weathers the next two years and refrains from unreasonably flooding the oil market... the future will be bright for OPEC countries."

He said international forecasts showed non-OPEC output declining from 1990, "and the OPEC share of the oil market will increase."

The United States and industrialised European countries had made a "behind-the-scenes agreement" to reduce oil prices in order to revive the U.S. economy, he said.

Mr. Aqazadeh was quoted as saying some OPEC producers have contributed to a "price war" through increased sales.

"Some OPEC members, consciously or otherwise, have taken part in the American-British conspiracy to reduce oil prices and revenues of OPEC countries, and the conspiracy to defeat OPEC as an oil-price-setting organisation," he said.

He said these countries "have contributed to a price war which, if continued, will lead to a drastic reduction in the revenue of all producers of oil. With repeated drops in oil prices, OPEC countries are facing falls in their revenues and financial problems."

He warned OPEC members in the current situation against thinking they can recover revenue through increased sales.

"While greater supply of oil keeps prices under pressure, most of these (OPEC) countries cannot

regain the fall in their revenue by increased oil sales, and OPEC should realise the danger of this situation," he said.

"We oppose any formula which would deprive OPEC of the authority to set prices, and we agree to any formula based on OPEC rules which would keep that authority for OPEC," he added.

OPEC chief rules out price drop below \$15

Meanwhile, a senior Arab oil official Saturday ruled out reports of a possible drop in oil prices to less than \$15 per barrel.

Mr. Ali Atiq, secretary-general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) was quoted as saying in an interview that "prices would not go down because this will have serious effects on both oil producing and consuming countries."

"Both producing and consuming countries have invested their funds on alternative energy sources, utilising the belief that the barrel of oil will remain above \$20," he added in the interview with the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Itihad.

Mr. Atiq expressed the view that the crude oil prices "will witness considerable stabilisation over the next three years," and said he expected the increase to reach \$45 a barrel in the 1990s.

He said the market will continue to improve over the next three years "due to an increase of demand that will accompany the growth of population, matched by a fall in oil supply."

OPEC groups ten Arab oil producing countries, six of whom are members of OPEC.

"OPEC members could not accept the decrease of their share in the oil market to less than 17 or 16 million barrels per day," Mr. Atiq said.

KUNA says OPEC to fight for market

In Kuwait, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA quoted senior Gulf sources Friday as saying OPEC was intent on sustaining pressure to win back at any cost markets lost to non-OPEC producers, even if the price of crude oil fell to \$13 a barrel.

The agency, which did not specifically attribute its information to officials of OPEC, said OPEC ministers held intensive contacts last week as oil prices crashed to their lowest levels in six years.

The ministers expected oil prices to breach \$15 a barrel and even hit \$13 in coming months, "but they would make no move to stop such a deterioration," KUNA said.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the weeks starting Saturday, Jan. 18, '86 and ending Wednesday Jan. 22, 1986 (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Jordan Islamic Bank	1020	2381	2.400	2.350	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	1115	2742	2.460	2.460	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	3811	5679	1.500	1.490	1.000
Housing Bank	1760	2698	1.520	1.520	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	6752	6823	1.010	1.020	1.000
Jordan Finance House	2050	1761	0.860	0.860	1.000
Islamic Investment House	15772	15738	1.000	1.000	1.000
Jordan National Bank	18076	46085	2.600	2.570	1.000
Jordan Investment & Finance Corporation	25856	17819	1.180	1.190	1.000
Jordan Bank	11160	178560	18.800	16.000	5.000
Aqaro (75%)	2800	1710	0.600	0.620	1.000
National Portfolio Securities (50%)	17745	12096	0.700	0.680	1.000
National Financial Investments	19080	20405	1.050	1.100	1.000
Arab Bank Ltd.	390	62919	162.500	161.000	10.000
Jordan French Insurance	973	2791	2.850	2.880	1.000
Refco Insurance (50%)	3029	1243	0.900	0.910	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	9289	13697	1.505	1.470	1.000
National Shipping Lines	10734	8041	0.700	0.750	1.000
Jordan Dairy	17971	21815	1.200	1.220	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	2084	6243	3.000	2.990	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	321222	235924	0.670	0.740	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboard Factories	100	240	2.450	2.460	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	2244	5542	2.480	2.470	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	66328	21309	0.390	0.320	1.000
National Industries	550	404	0.760	0.740	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	2629	17502	6.650	6.600	5.000
Arab Investment Bank	1322	2640	1.980	2.000	1.000
Industrial Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	1448	2502	1.800	1.740	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	320	397	1.200	1.240	1.000
Finance and Credit	64875	25786	0.880	0.880	1.000
Petra Bank	2266	6465	2.900	2.850	1.000
Jordan Leasing and Equipment	43314	31889	0.630	0.730	1.000
Alladin Industries	78052	57898	0.740	0.730	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	119	2549	23.000	22.000	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes	26	307	11.760	11.750	5.000
Arab Aluminium	197853	17129	0.840	0.820	1.000
Jordan Insurance	160	1715	11.210	11.200	1.000
Jordan Industrial Investments	1000	700	0.700	0.700	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	175	971	5.500	5.500	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	14500	16700	1.150	1.200	1.000
Arab Insurance	8700	6913	0.760	0.790	1.000
Arab International Hotels	2035	774	0.380	0.380	1.000
Dar Al Sha'ab Press	4223	3114	0.710	0.740	1.000
Publishing and Distribution	7605	1523	0.430	0.470	1.000
Management and Consultation	250	888	3.600	3.550	1.000
Jordan Woatex Mills	3720	3740	0.950	1.000	1.000
Jordan Ceramic	796	913	1.110	1.160	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	2510	1733	0.710	0.690	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches (JIMCO)	100	146	1.500	1.460	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	2000	30,000	15.000	15,000	10.000
Orient Exchange	203	201	0.990	0.990	1.000
Arab International Insurance Federation	1000	2000	2.000	2.000	1.000
General Insurance	100	200	2.050	2.000	1.000
Arabian Seas Insurance	263	237	1.000	0.900	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	11000	3286	0.780	0.800	1.000
Petra Project and Leasing Equipment	178	801	4.500	4.500	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	3200	816	0.270	0.270	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trade	7250	8420	1.160	1.160	1.000
National Steel Industries	2180	3183	1.470	1.460	1.000
Dar Al Dawaa Development and Investment	2783	4915	1.800	1.800	1.000
Jordan Tanning	2500	2825	1.150	1.130	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	3825	4016	1.020	1.050	1.000
Rafia Industrial	750	465	0.590	0.620	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries					
Grand total	1,031,141	1,114,401			

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JAN. 26, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to consider what your long-term aims are that have considerable breadth to them and see just where you can add some light to situations so that the future will be more joyful.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): You have particular talents that should be put to use profitably now. Show particular attention to an older person.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Be conscientious in handling home matters and you can establish greater harmony there. Make the house look very charming.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): You can profit from lessons you have learned recently, so get busy and solve problematical affairs wisely.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21): Concentrate on how you can add to your present abundance and make right plans for such growth.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Go after personal aims early and gain them. See your long-term friends during the day and enjoy a new acquaintance tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): You may be puzzled about why you have not been more successful in gaining your aims, but by evening get the right slant.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Discuss your personal aims with good friends and they will assist you in gaining them. Be charming and witty.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Outside affairs may not seem to work out as you would like them to but be more precise and all is fine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): A good day to get good advice from an older person who can tell you how to become more successful in the future.

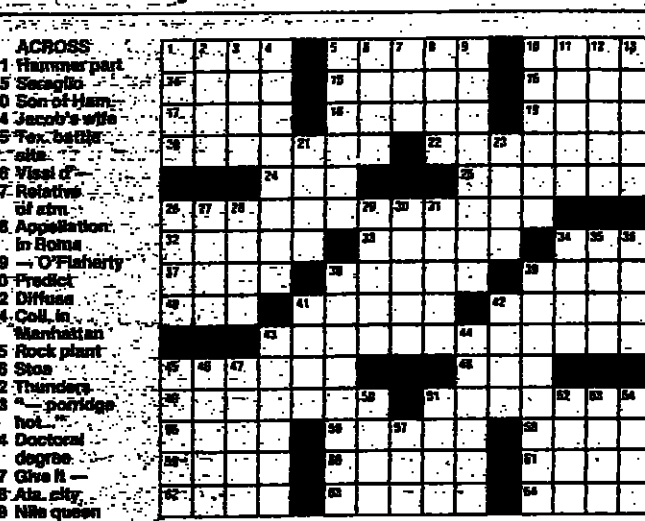
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Jot down new activities you want to get into and then converse with experts so that you can make a success of them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): A long-time partner can be most generous with any assistance you ask of him or her.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Make your environment more charming and clean today and add artistic pieces that are beautiful.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have a high potential and great imagination so give the finest education you can give that assures a big success during the lifetime. Be sure to give praise for anything exceptional that is accomplished in order to raise the incentive to succeed.

THE Daily Crossword by Barbara J. Weakley



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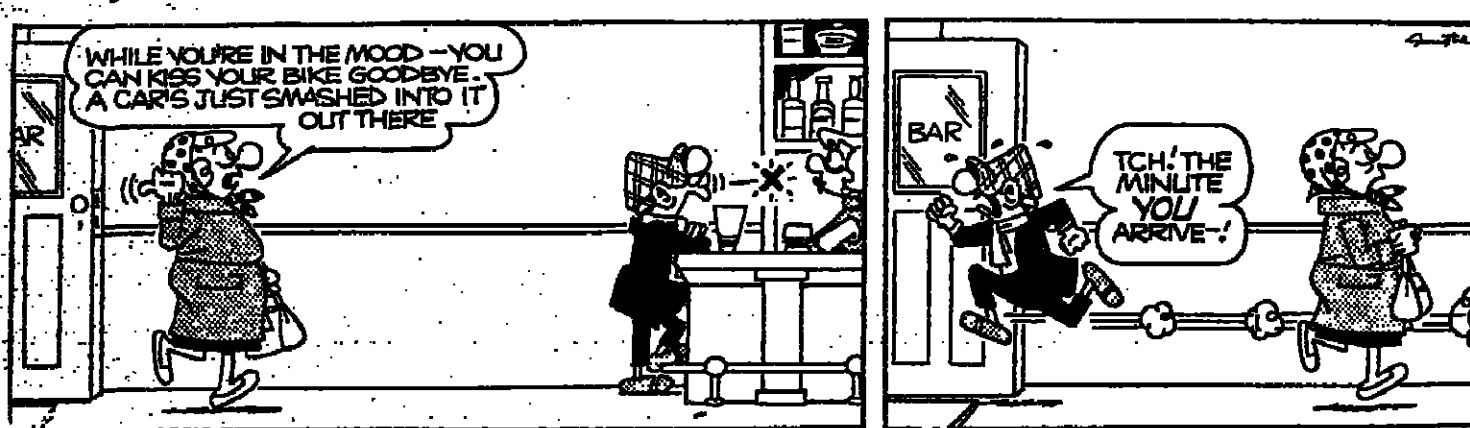
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



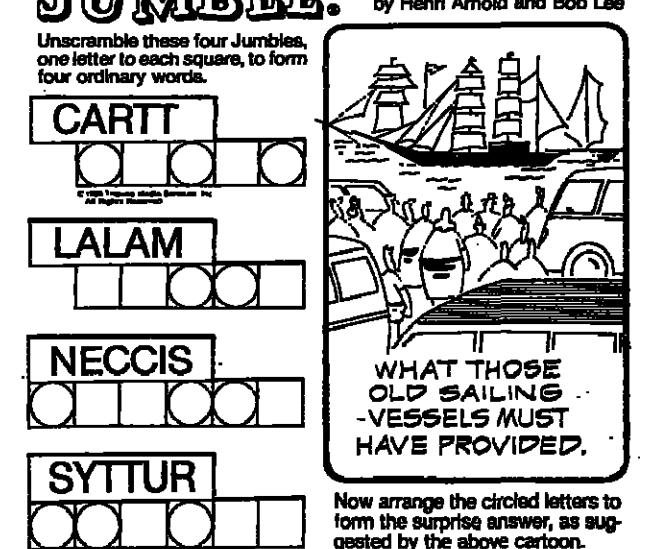
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RIGOR HAVEN INJURY STURDY

Answer: A handy device for finding furniture in the dark—YOUR SHIN

Soviets urge U.S. to act on Gorbachev's arms proposal

MOSOCW (Agencies) — Pravda Saturday called on the Reagan administration to respond positively to the Kremlin's proposals to rid the world of nuclear arms by the year 2000.

The Communist Party newspaper said the first step towards reducing international tension would be for the United States to agree to end nuclear tests and join Moscow's extended moratorium, which runs out at the end of March.

The editorial repeated the guidelines of a proposal laid down by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Jan. 15 and presented by the Soviet Union to the U.S. at the start of the latest round of arms talks in Geneva.

Pravda said Western commentators had misinterpreted one part of the offer. Moscow's agreement to eliminate its medium-range SS-20 missiles from the "European zone" if the U.S. scr-

apped its cruise and Pershing-2 missiles did not correspond to the U.S. "zero option," it said.

The zero option sought to ban SS-20s inside Soviet territory as well and did not rule out the possibility of Washington transferring its missiles to its allies or of Britain and France building up their own arsenals, Pravda said.

U.S. officials said Friday that the United States was still waiting for the Soviets to provide details of their latest arms proposal and word from Moscow on a date for this year's summit meeting between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the administration has completed its preliminary ana-

lysis of Mr. Gorbachev's recent proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons by the end of the century but now is awaiting a detailed explanation of the plan to be presented at the U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva.

"We will in due course be responding to that proposal after we see their details," Mr. Speakes said.

"We have studied and analysed what was presented to us in writing," Mr. Speakes said Friday, but he reiterated that Geneva was the place for discussion of details.

Another U.S. official, speaking on condition he not be named, said the administration also is waiting for the Soviets to offer a new date for Mr. Gorbachev's trip to the United States later this year for his second summit meeting with Mr. Reagan.

The United States had suggested the two meet in June, and

the Soviets came back with a proposed September date, which the Americans said could push the session too close to U.S. congressional elections in November.

But the U.S. official denied reports the Soviets were insisting on September, saying they had suggested that month to give the two sides more time to resolve outstanding differences before the meeting.

Responding to a report in the Washington Post that Mr. Reagan could respond within the week to Mr. Gorbachev's proposal, Mr. Speakes said the president would answer the Soviet leader's latest letter, which was received as part of a continuing private correspondence the two leaders have had since the November summit in Geneva. But he said that would not constitute the U.S. response to the disarmament plan.



Lesotho's new leader warns against subversion

MASERU (R) — Lesotho's new military ruler, signalling possible dissent within the armed forces to their takeover on Monday, have said they will deal ruthlessly with any attempt to subvert their authority.

Maj. Gen. Justin Lekhanya, head of a military council that was sworn in Friday to rule the landlocked country, said in a radio broadcast his government wanted to create peace and national reconciliation in Lesotho and that anyone attempting subversion would be dealt with by force.

His speech, the first major policy announcement since the coup which toppled civilian Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan, was apparently aimed at officers who resisted the new government and are now believed to have been detained or demoted, political sources said.

Gen. Lekhanya seems firmly in control of the country and there has been widespread support for his regime from several provincial governors who served under the ousted administration.

He said his government would maintain all diplomatic ties established by the previous government, but would re-examine treaties the Jonathan government had signed.

Gen. Lekhanya made clear his government would pursue a non-aligned policy.

He repeated a previous declaration that he would not hand back to Pretoria refugees from South Africa whose presence had led to a crippling economic clamp on Lesotho. South Africa had accused the Jonathan government of harbouring African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas.

Gen. Lekhanya said his government would seek to normalise ties with South Africa under a policy of "peaceful coexistence and good neighbourliness."

He blamed political leaders in Lesotho for failing to achieve peace and unity.

"I must state that any attempt to resist the present government will be met with greater force. Our commitment is to the restoration of true reconciliation and peace and any subversion or deviation from our set goal will not be tolerated," he declared.

Gen. Lekhanya said his government would also seek to remove what he called national unity problems in Lesotho, adding that there would be a general amnesty for all citizens who had committed offences under the previous government.

The leader of the military council said King Moshoeshoe II would be in overall charge of the nation's affairs, acting on the advice of the six-man military council.

The African National Congress (ANC) Friday said South Africa had compromised the independence of Lesotho and tried to turn the mountain kingdom into "a client state."

U.S. to send election observers to Manila

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is sending a 30-strong official delegation to the Philippines to observe the Feb. 7 presidential election, amid some doubts in Washington that the polling can be conducted fairly.

President Reagan Friday signalled his approval of the congressional plan to send a team to Manila.

Dealing another blow to President Ferdinand Marcos's standing, Senator Richard Lugar, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee who is to lead the delegation, expressed open scepticism that Mr. Marcos would allow a free and fair vote.

The Indiana Republican's comments came hard on the heels of revelations that the U.S. army had rejected Mr. Marcos's claim to have led a crack wartime guerrilla unit and charges that the Marcos family had used dubious acquired wealth to buy New York real estate.

President Reagan, in a White House meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz, Friday accepted Sen. Lugar's recommendation that an official delegation should be sent, an aide to Sen. Lugar said. He said Sen. Lugar and Mr. Shultz would decide the composition of the delegation of around 30 members which was likely to leave on Feb. 4.

The Philippine government had made the visit conditional on an official nomination by Mr. Reagan.

Sri Lankan opposition criticises citizenship move

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's main opposition party Saturday criticised plans to give citizenship to 94,000 stateless plantation workers and said the government should hold a general election to test opinion on the issue.

The Freedom Party, headed by former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, said in a statement: "The whole matter must be placed before the people at a general election because it is the

people's interest that is at stake, not that of any political party or power group."

The government said last week it would give Sri Lankan citizenship to 94,000 stateless people, most of them workers on the island's tea plantations.

They are descended from workers brought over more than 100 years ago from south India when Sri Lanka was the British colony of Ceylon.

N. Ireland poll results show rejection of accord

BELFAST (R) — The British government has received mixed signals from a series of Northern Ireland by-elections organised by the Protestant majority as a referendum against a controversial Anglo-Irish agreement on the troubled province.

The bad news was that Protestants Friday voted heavily against the new accord giving Dublin a say in running the province for the first time, although the total poll for their candidates was less than they had hoped.

The good news was that the moderate Catholic-Nationalist Party made significant gains at the expense of Sinn Féin, political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla group pledged to overthrow British rule by force.

One of the main aims of the agreement signed by the two government leaders last November was to wean the Nationalist minority away from supporting Sinn Féin by showing that constitutional politics could improve their lot.

The by-elections in 15 of the province's 17 constituencies were forced by the mass resignation of Protestant members of parliament who support continued union with Britain. They fear the accord will lead to the north's reunification with the Catholic south.

sonal staff had authorised in her name?"

Newspapers said Mr. Brittan's resignation was inevitable.

A Financial Times editorial said though Mr. Brittan had been wrong in authorising the leak, what proved fatal was that he and Mrs. Thatcher had failed to be frank in parliament.

The pro-Thatcher Daily Express said Mr. Brittan should have decided to resign sooner. Mrs. Thatcher herself now stood "perilously close to the brink," it said.

The pro-Conservative Daily Mail said the crisis was over whether Conservatives want Mrs. Thatcher to lead them into the next election.

The Daily Telegraph said the Westland saga had been blown out of proportion and "should not have provoked a single cabinet resignation, let alone two."

The Liberal Guardian said Mr. Brittan had been a victim of a farce and cast doubt on Mrs. Thatcher's insistence that she did not know the letter was to be leaked.

The pro-Labour Mirror agreed that Mr. Brittan was a victim: "A sacrifice was essential to the survival of the government."

The influential Times and the mass circulation Sun did not appear because of a printing strike.

Troops put on alert in north India

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — Security was tightened in north India Saturday amid fears of violence when the Indian government announced its decision on a territorial dispute between Punjab and Haryana states.

A senior Haryana official told Reuters a central government arbitration committee had decided to award Haryana 90 villages now within Punjab's borders in exchange for transfer of Chandigarh, the joint state capital, to Punjab.

There were also fears of trouble in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, where religious leaders announced that re-building of one of their holiest buildings would begin Sunday.

Militant Sikhs have demanded reconstruction of the Akal Takht, in the Golden Temple complex,

saying its re-building after an army assault in 1984 was unholy.

The army stormed the Golden Temple to flush out Sikh extremists fighting for an independent nation in Punjab.

The 90 villages to be handed to Haryana include 54 whose ownership is disputed by Punjab. Haryana demanded them after Chandigarh was awarded to Punjab under a peace accord signed by the Akali Dal and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi last year.

The pact ended a three-year campaign by Sikhs for political concessions in Punjab. They demanded exclusive control of Chandigarh, the merger into Punjab of outlying Punjab-speaking areas and increased rights over river waters passing through the region.

On Thursday, five people were

killed in protests across Haryana against the Chandigarh transfer and fresh violence was feared in Punjab after the award of the villages was announced, a senior Punjab police officer said.

He said paramilitary troops had been deployed in the disputed villages and the army was on alert in both states.

"We expect large scale violence to erupt if the transfer is stalled," a senior police officer said.

The central government has set Sunday, India's Republic Day, as the deadline for transferring Chandigarh to Punjab.

The city's police chief, R.K. Ohri, told Reuters about 8,000 para-military troops had been moved into the city and patrols stepped up to head off any violence.

Indian president calls for peaceful politics

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian President Zail Singh, speaking on the eve of Republic Day celebrations threatened by unrest in the northern state of Punjab, appealed Saturday for people to settle political scores peacefully.

"Political differences should not assume the overtones of hostility and enmity," Mr. Singh said in his annual review of domestic and foreign affairs.

Political tension in Mr. Singh's home state of Punjab has dogged the weeks up to Republic Day, the date fixed for a planned transfer of Punjab and Haryana's shared state capital Chandigarh to Punjab.

The transfer was agreed in a peace accord last July between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and moderate Sikhs but has been resisted by Haryana, where five people were killed in protests last Thursday.

In the latest development, seen as likely to anger Sikhs, officials were due to announce the award of 90 villages in Sikh-majority Punjab to Hindu-dominated Haryana as compensation. Punjab disputes the handover of 54 of the villages.

Mr. Singh, India's first Sikh president, described the Punjab pact

and a similar peace accord in Assam state as shining examples of victories for democracy and for values like truth and tolerance.

"It is however unfortunate that some decline in observance of these values has been evident, which gives rise to many undesirable consequences. For this decline in values we can only blame ourselves," he said, calling on leaders to set high moral standards.

Despite the Punjab peace accord, Sikh separatists have kept up their attacks and about 20 people have been killed in the state already this year.

On economic affairs, Mr. Singh said politicians and bureaucrats should work wholeheartedly to implement India's seventh five-year plan, the basis of central planning from 1985 to 1990.

The plan's stress on fighting poverty, the population explosion and unemployment were especially important, he said.

"It should alleviate growing restlessness among the people, especially educated youth in urban and rural areas, he said. He did not elaborate, but youth unemployment has been seen as a key cause of unrest among Sikhs in Punjab.

Papandreou arrives in Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou arrived in New Delhi where he will be the guest of honour at India's Republic Day celebrations Sunday.

Mr. Papandreou, accompanied by his wife Margarita and Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, was met at the airport by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his wife Sonia. He began a five-day trip to India at Bombay Friday.

At the Republic Day cel-

ebrations, Mr. Papandreou will see a huge military and civilian parade featuring camels, elephants, tribal dancers, soldiers, tanks and aircraft.

The celebrations mark the introduction of India's constitution in 1950.

Mr. Papandreou, one of the signatories of a six-nation Indian-led appeal for nuclear disarmament in Delhi last January, will hold formal talks with Mr. Gandhi and other officials on Monday.

Scientists present close-up shots of Uranus

PASADENA, California (R) — After centuries of speculation and years of anticipation, scientists Saturday presented the first close-up photographs of Uranus taken by the Voyager-2 spacecraft in its closest pass by the gas-shrouded planet.

Excitement at the U.S. space agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) reached a peak during the night as scientists analysed hundreds of photographs and a bonanza of scientific measurements as they deciphered their meanings for the public.

Voyager-2 gathered some 6,000 photographs and reams of data about the mysterious planet, its nine rings of dark particles and 14 known moons Friday morning as it flew by Uranus at a distance of about 50,000 miles (80,000 kilometres).

Information from the closest pass had to be stored in Voyager's on-board recorders until the one-tonne spacecraft had passed behind Uranus Friday night and thus had an unimpeded transmission line to earth.

Uranus is so far from earth — more than 1.8 billion miles (2.8 billion kilometres) away — that it takes nearly three hours for Voyager to beam the pictures and other information to huge dish antennas in California, Australia and Spain.

Voyager scientists said they expected spectacular results, and said one more day was not long to wait for the most revealing information about the planet than all that had been learned in the 205 years since it was discovered.

"Everything you've heard to date is a prologue to what is now happening, and in the next few days we'll have the discoveries we've all been waiting for," Ed Stone, the mission's chief scientist, said as Voyager was in the midst of six hours of the most intense period of observation of its eight-year-old mission.

Very little is known about the composition of the planet, its moons and rings, and the photographs, coupled with radiation and other measuring devices, should provide answers.

Photos taken earlier by Voyager, which previously visited Jupiter and Saturn, revealed intriguing details of several of the five previously known Uranian moons, but scientists said they needed a closer look to know what they meant.

On Friday, as Voyager-2 swept by Uranus, Ed Stone led a five-minute tribute to Sir William Herschel, the German-born musician and amateur astronomer who discovered the planet Uranus in 1781 from his garden in the south west England spa town of Bath.

'Moscow remains steadfast against Star Wars'

BONN, West Germany (Agencies) — The Soviet Union remains as strongly opposed as ever to the U.S. "Star Wars" plans, despite speculation to the contrary following Moscow's latest arms proposal, a high-ranking U.S. official has said.

In formal proposals at the U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva, Moscow opposed research, development and testing of a defence against nuclear missiles, the official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told a news conference.

The chief U.S. negotiator at the Geneva disarmament talks, Max Kampelman, met Friday in Bonn with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other officials to discuss the new Soviet disarmament proposals made Jan. 16 in Geneva.

On Wednesday and Thursday, Soviet arms negotiator Yuri A. Kvitsinsky was in Bonn to explain the new Soviet proposals.

The U.S. official denied speculation that the Soviet had softened their opposition to U.S. missile-defence research, officially called the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) but known popularly as "Star Wars."

The speculation increased in Bonn after West German Parliament Member Volker Ruche said Friday that Mr. Kvitsinsky had told him the Soviets might be willing to allow some types of "basic" missile-defence research, saying it was allowed by the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty between the superpowers.

"That distinction has not been reflected in their position at Geneva," the U.S. official said. "To this day there is no change in their position."

In Paris French Defence Minister Paul Quilès has signalled a shift in government policy towards "Star Wars" project by encouraging French industry to participate in the U.S. research programme.

While reaffirming French political opposition to the plan for a space-based missile defence system, Mr. Quilès gave official blessing for the first time to companies eager to share in the technological bonanza.

U.K. opposition sets sights on Thatcher after Brittan goes

LONDON (R) — Britain's political opposition Saturday set its sights on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher after a second minister resigned over a crisis stemming from efforts to save the ailing Westland helicopter firm.

Trade Secretary Leon Brittan quit Friday under pressure from colleagues in the ruling Conservative Party after Mrs. Thatcher revealed the leak of a secret government letter about Westland, the country's only helicopter manufacturer.

His downfall was a direct result of the resignation on Jan. 9 of Michael Heseltine as defence minister. Mr. Heseltine had been Mr. Brittan's main protagonist in a cabinet battle over the fate of the firm.

Mrs. Thatcher is now faced with explaining the extent of her own knowledge of the leak affair in an emergency debate on Monday which has been billed as the most critical parliamentary encounter of her 6½ year premiership.

Neil Kinnock, the leader of the main opposition Labour Party who will open Monday's debate, said Friday night: "Leon Brittan has been a casualty of this whole dirty business. He must not be regarded as a sacrifice that will satisfy demands for a full and honest

explanation of what has been going on."

"The prime minister has got a great deal of answering to do."

Mr. Kinnock will press her to fill gaps he said were left by her statement to the House of Commons on Thursday that first revealed Mr. Brittan's role in leaking the document.

The leak involved a confidential Jan. 6 letter from Solicitor-General Sir Patrick Mayhew, a senior government law officer, to Mr. Heseltine. It accused the defence minister of material inaccuracies in his campaign on behalf of a European consortium rescue bid for Westland.

Mrs. Thatcher said she had no knowledge the document was to be leaked but approved of the action in retrospect, although not of the manner it was carried out. Parts of the letter were passed to the Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, in a telephone call on Jan. 6 from the Trade Department.

Mrs. Thatcher set up an inquiry on Jan. 16 into how the contents of the letter were leaked, only to reveal on Thursday that the leak was authorised by some of her closest aides.

Opposition politicians have expressed open disbelief that Mrs.

Thatcher was unaware of the central facts of the affair at an earlier date.

The leak of a government document potentially contravenes the Official Secrets Act. But Mrs. Thatcher, describing the leak in terms of an authorised disclosure, said on Thursday no charges would be made against any of the officials directly involved.

Labour's deputy leader Roy Hattersley Friday listed a series of specific questions that the opposition plans to put to Mrs. Thatcher on Monday.

He said the opposition wanted to know, among other things:

— Who instructed Mayhew to write the Jan. 6 letter, which was potentially damaging to Mr. Heseltine's case?

— Why the letter was not published openly and in full to newspapers?

— Was her private secretary told that Brittan had mounted a covert operation?

— Did the leak represent a clandestine operation which her office took for granted would meet with her approval?

— "Most important of all, when did the prime minister first know about the squalid stratagem that the secretary of state for industry had devised and which her per-

COLUMN

Bardot seeking fourth husband

PARIS (R) — Brigitte Bardot, former sex-kitten of the French cinema, is looking for her fourth husband. Now 51 and living alone with a menagerie of dogs, cats and horses in the exclusive southern resort of Saint Tropez, Bardot broke a long-standing rule never to give interviews by giving her thoughts to the right-wing Figaro weekend magazine. In the current edition she said: "I only think of that (getting married again). I want to be married for the last time in my life. I missed out on the others, maybe because I wasn't ready. Now, the best thing would be for me to live with someone as a companion until the end of my days." As to the candidate, Bardot was definite: "I want somebody intelligent, a little wild, a little funny. But I don't want to see them 24 hours out of 24. I am not possessive," she told the magazine. Her previous husbands were film director Roger Vadim, actor Jacques Charrier, and playboy millionaire Gunther Sachs.

Bar owner fined for indecency

COPENHAGEN (R) — The owner of a Danish bar who served customers "the world's most horrible drink" then beat them on the naked backsides with a whip, was fined by a court for offending public decency. The Tannhauser Bar in Copenhagen offered guests an "ugly bugly" drink containing schnaps, banana liqueur, egg liqueur, blue curacao, salt, tabasco, a cocktail cherry and a pickled onion, topped with a sprinkling of gold glitter. The customers then received three strokes of a whip, on the grounds that they deserved it for drinking such a mixture, the court was told. The practice began with a customer who had eaten a chocolate-covered smoked herring to win an office bet, and asked if the bar could serve an equally awful drink. The restaurant owner, one barman and a guest were each fined 300 Danish crowns (\$33), despite a defence appeal that the ceremony was funny and not indecent.

Mother of executed men to be hanged

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — The mother of two armed robbers executed by firing squad is to be hanged for her part in their crimes, newspapers have reported. The reports said that Atin Ekpenyong was convicted on a charge of robbery with violence. She was tried by the armed robbery and firearms tribunal of Cross River state in eastern Nigeria, near the Cameroon frontier. Mrs. Ekpenyong's sons Etim and Edet were convicted by the same panel and shot on Saturday. State Governor Dan Archibong confirmed the death sentence on their mother. Prison authorities will decide when the execution will take place, the reports said.

Californian completes 'run for peace'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A 32-year-old Portuguese-American from California breached a tape here to complete a 3,200-mile (5,200 kilometre) coast-to-coast run marking the U.N. International Year of Peace 1986. The man, Basildar Medeiros, started out from San Juan Capistrano last Oct. 9 and averaged 30 miles (50 kilometres) a day in weather that ranged from desert heat to sub-zero blizzards. "There is a great lesson to be learned from this run," he said on arrival here. "That is, if we just keep moving soulfully the goal is won." Medeiros was welcomed to the United Nations by Ambassador Antonio Monteiro of Portugal and delegates from Grenada, Bangladesh and Fiji.

1 in 4 Amsterdam gays has AIDS virus

UTRECHT, The Netherlands (R) — One in four male homosexuals in the Dutch capital, Amsterdam, has the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus in their blood, according to doctors at a conference on AIDS here Saturday. Tests on 750 homosexual men in the city indicated that only five to 10 per cent of those infected will actually contract the deadly disease, but the risk of infection is growing despite attempts by many homosexuals to avoid it, the doctors said. The Netherlands has 98 registered AIDS cases to date, mostly in Amsterdam.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1—Neither vulnerable, as South with 60 on score you hold:
♦K75 ♠A36 ♣Q542 ♦J105
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1NT Pass Pass 2♦
Pass Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦J65 ♠K84 ♣K10 ♠A9552
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 2♦ Pass
3♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦KJ765 ♠AJ54 ♣J103 ♦8
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♦ Double 1♥ 2♦
Pass 2NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦Q93 ♠873 ♣K102 ♦K765
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
Pass Pass 1♥ 1♦
4♥ ?
What action do you take?

Q5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦A9 ♠KJ8 ♣Q1088 ♦J93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1♦ Pass
?
What do you bid now?

Q6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦A8752 ♠Q95 ♣Q10873
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♦ Double 1♥ 2♦
Pass 2NT 5♦ ?
What action do you take?